

Saudi diplomat 'missing' in Iran

JEDDAH (AP) — Saudi diplomats in Tehran say they have not seen a colleague since he was injured in a fall from a window during a riot at the Saudi embassy, a Saudi Arabian newspaper reported Tuesday. The English-language Saudi Gazette also said that other Saudi diplomats may not be free to leave Iran. Attack on Saudi and Kuwaiti diplomatic missions in Tehran followed the deaths of several hundred pilgrims — more than half of them Iranian — in violent riots July 31 in the Holy City of Mecca. Two diplomats in the Kuwait embassy and four in the Saudi embassy were taken captive that day, according to official reports. They have all been released with the exception of one Saudi diplomat, according to the reports. In telephone interviews, the Saudi diplomats in Tehran claimed to be in good condition eight days after their embassy was attacked by a mob, the paper reported. "We are good. We are good. Don't worry. Pray for us. We will be back," the Gazette quoted Charge d'Affaires Marwan Bashir Al Romi as saying. The Gazette identified the missing man as political attaché Mosaad Al Ghamdi.

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Paris urges end to row with Tehran

PARIS (R) — A solution to the diplomatic deadlock between France and Iran is held up over an Iranian demand that each country be allowed to leave six diplomats behind to look after their interests, French Interior Minister Charles Pasqua said Tuesday. "What would be the meaning of a diplomatic rupture if six diplomats were left in place?" the minister said on French Radio. France, which broke diplomatic relations with Iran on July 17, wanted only a two-man team to remain, he said. He called for an end to the deadlock which has left 10 French nationals and 45 Iranians locked inside their respective embassy compounds for almost a month.

Iranian defector shot dead

GENEVA (R) — A former Iranian military pilot, who deserted and sought asylum in Switzerland in February, was shot dead Monday night in a Geneva street by two men, police said Tuesday. The 36-year-old man, whose name was not released, was walking home with his pregnant wife when the gunmen shot him five times, police spokesman Jean-Claude Ducrot said. Police said the pilot had fled Iran in his plane to Iraq and came to Switzerland in February seeking asylum.

U.S. calls on Israel to drop Lavi

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States on Tuesday urged Israel to abandon its costly Lavi fighter project which is being developed largely with American aid money. State Department spokesman Charles Redman told reporters the Lavi project, whose fate is due to be decided by the Israeli government next week, could not be funded within the budgeted \$3 billion annual U.S. aid to Israel. "Given the budgetary realities we and Israel face, we believe a decision to terminate the Lavi would be in the best interests of both our countries," he said.

Saudis get 2 Hawk fighters

LONDON (AP) — The Saudi air force took delivery on Tuesday of its first two Hawk jets, part of a \$5-billion (\$8-billion) order for military aircraft that is Britain's biggest-ever export contract. British Aerospace handed the logbooks of the first two Hawks to a Saudi representative in a ceremony at British Aerospace's Dunsfold airfield near Guildford in Surrey, southwest of London. The Saudis, who turned to European plane-makers after the United States backed away from selling advanced jets to them, are buying 72 Tornado fighters, 30 Hawks for advanced training and 30 PC9 Turboprop trainers.

UAE quits 4 organisations

ABU DHABI (R) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) is withdrawing from four international organisations, UAE President Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahayan disclosed in decrees published on Tuesday. The decrees gave no reason, but sources said the move was in line with government policy to save money in view of lower oil earnings. The four organisations were the Arab Postal Federation, the Gulf Postal Federation, the International Organisation for Civil Protection and the Arab International Organisation for Social Defence against crimes.

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Mine scare rockets in Gulf; Britain and France send hunters

Combined agency dispatches

BRITAIN and France announced on Tuesday that they were sending minesweepers to protect their own vessels in the troubled waters of the Gulf as mines sown in the strategic waterway raised a new menace to shipping.

At least four mines were spotted on Tuesday bobbing around tankers in a crowded anchorage off Fujairah port of the United Arab Emirates in an area which was hitherto considered safe. It was the staging point for American-escorted tanker convoys entering the Gulf war zone area. As Britain and France said they were sending minesweepers to the region, the United States announced it was trying to convince other nations to create an international minesweeping force.

U.S. and Omani helicopters were scouring coastal waters of the Gulf of Oman on Tuesday after the four floating mines were spotted.

The hastily mounted search operation came just hours after an Omani navy scout helicopter spotted three mines and a ship's

crew reported a fourth, according to Gulf-based shipping sources. The 274,347-tonne supertanker Texaco Caribbean struck a mine on Monday as it was manoeuvring to drop anchor 13 kilometres off Fujairah.

Iran has been widely blamed for planting the mines. Iranian leaders said earlier such mines were laid by "invisible hands" but added the strategic waters would remain "full of mines" as long as superpowers intervene in the region.

Reuter photographer Ulli Michel flew over the anchorage on Tuesday in a helicopter and saw two of the mines floating near anchored tankers while a UAE coastguard boat kept watch.

Witnesses told AP four helicopters were sweeping back and forth at low levels, but there was

no word on whether any more mines had been found in the area.

The United States furnished the helicopters for the search for mines at the request of the Sultanate of Oman government, according to a diplomatic source who asked not to be identified.

"There's a little bit of panic," among the tanker crews anchored in the offshore waters, a shipping source, asking not to be named, told AP. Another source said: "It's a bad situation, tankers are now afraid to move."

The shipping and oil industry relies heavily on the anchorage as a staging and ship-to-ship oil transfer centre. As many as 50 ships may be moored on a given day.

The Texaco Caribbean, which had just arrived from Iran's Larak Island oil terminal with a load of Iranian oil, was holed about a metre below the waterline.

The area is also where the U.S. navy organises its convoys of reflagged tankers for the precarious trip into the Strait of Hormuz, just 30 kilometres to the north.

Britain said it would send four minesweepers to the Gulf in a limited mission to protect British

(Continued on page 3)

U.S. fighter fires at suspected Iranian jet

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — A U.S. navy F-14 jet fighter, under orders to protect a U.S. surveillance plane, fired on a suspected Iranian jet that appeared to be preparing for an attack, administration sources and published reports say.

The sources, who demanded they not be identified, said Monday the incident occurred over the weekend, shortly after U.S. navy warships began escorting a group of three Kuwaiti oil tankers through the Strait of Hormuz into the Gulf.

The threatening aircraft apparently was not hit, the sources said. Administration sources said only that the U.S. jet fired "a missile" at the aircraft, but both the New York Times and the Washington Post reported Tuesday that two sparrow air-to-air missiles were fired, with neither hitting a target.

The Pentagon refused to discuss the matter late Monday and the administration sources refused to be more specific about when or where the incident occurred.

The sources said, however, that the Navy F-14 jets had been ordered to protect a P-3 Orion surveillance plane. Those planes

Weinberger warns 'belligerent' planes and ships

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Defence Secretary Casper Weinberger warned on Tuesday American forces in the Gulf would fire on any target which threatened them or their tanker convoys.

Speaking after the United States safely ended its second escort of Kuwaiti tankers, Mr. Weinberger made clear there would be no change in the uncompromising rules of engagement.

He refused to comment directly on an incident involving U.S. and Iranian planes on Saturday. Asked about the incident at a breakfast with Pentagon reporters, Mr. Weinberger repeated rules of engagement laid down by President Reagan after the U.S. frigate Stark was damaged by an Iraqi aircraft in an apparent accident on May 17.

"If a belligerent plane or ship put itself in a position from which it could develop a lethal attack, the commander of an American ship or plane was authorised... to make a determination that hostile intent had been exhibited and to take appropriate action," Mr. Weinberger said.

Soviets confirm deploying mobile, rail-based missiles

MOSCOW (AP) — A Soviet official confirmed Tuesday that the Kremlin was deploying a new ICBM, but denied the move violates the SALT II treaty. U.S. officials say the new missiles can be launched from railcars.

Viktor P. Karpov, head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's disarmament desk, said his country was changing obsolete launching equipment with modern mobile launchers by deploying strategic rockets known to Western analysts as SSX24s.

However, Mr. Karpov told a government news briefing that "the Soviet Union, while carrying out modernisation of its strategic armaments, is doing it in conformity with SALT II."

U.S. officials said last week that SSX24s had been moved from the factory where they were produced to railcars, which could move the intercontinental ballistic missiles around, becoming part of the Soviet long-range arsenal.

In its annual report, "Soviet Military Power," the Pentagon predicted the missiles would be

deployed this year and said the weapon would be capable of delivering 10 nuclear warheads within 10,000 kilometres.

The most important feature of the weapons is its mode of deployment on railway cars that could travel around the country, creating difficulties for U.S. spy satellites seeking Soviet targets for U.S. missiles.

Mr. Karpov said the missiles' mobility was "a guarantee that they will survive a first strike, if a first strike is delivered on our territory."

U.S. Senator Jesse Helms, a Republican, charged Friday that the Soviets violated a key portion of the unratified 1979 SALT II treaty by deploying the SSX24s.

Karpov, however, told reporters the Soviet Union was continuing to adhere to SALT II limits, which he said establish a ceiling of 820 land-based ballistic missiles with multiple warheads for each superpower.

He said the SSX24s "is a new type of missile which is possible within the framework of the SALT II treaty."

Tanker convoy reaches Kuwait

KUWAIT (Agencies) — Three reflagged Kuwaiti tankers and their U.S. navy escorts reached Kuwait safely on Tuesday after skirting a mine along their route up the Gulf, shipping sources said.

They said four U.S. warships turned over the tankers to the Kuwait navy at the limit of the emirate's territorial waters at around 1330 GMT after an 880-kilometre trip delayed about 36 hours by discovery of a mine.

In Washington, the Defence Department announced the safe arrival of the convoy, the second under a U.S. scheme to protect Kuwaiti shipping from Iranian attack.

The convoy steamed through the Strait of Hormuz on Saturday but halted near Bahrain on Sunday when the U.S. navy detected Iranian naval activity in the northern Gulf.

U.S. helicopters dragging sonar devices through the water later located a mine anchored to the seabed some 160 kilometres southeast of Kuwait. One source said it was "right smack along the convoy's route."

The sources said the 46,723-tonne gas carrier Gas King and the 79,999-tonne refined products carrier Ocean City had berthed at Kuwait's main oil port of Mina Al Ahmadi while the 81,283-tonne product tanker Sea Isle City had anchored offshore.

Shipping sources in the region and defence officials in Washington said earlier that extra precautions had been taken because of the possibility of mines in the path of the convoy.

"The secretary of defence has been advised through the central command that Middle East force ships as of about 9:35 a.m. EDT (1335 GMT) had turned over to the Kuwaitis the three reflagged tankers in the territorial waters of Kuwait," Defence Department spokesman Robert Sims said in Washington.

The convoy set out on the final leg of its journey early Tuesday in single file, strung out some 10 kilometres long, according to correspondent Brent Sadler, of the British Independent Television network, who observed from a chartered ship.

Helicopters flew just ahead and behind the procession, apparently scanning the waters for mines.

King receives UAE message

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein on Tuesday received a message from United Arab Emirates (UAE) President Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahayan.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, gave no details about the contents of the letter which was delivered to His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan during a meeting with UAE Air Force Commander Sheikh Mohammad Ibn Zayed Al Nahayan.

Sheikh Mohammad arrived in Amman on Monday to attend the wedding of His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Ibn Al Hussein, the second son of the King, and Her Royal Highness Princess Alia.

Also on Tuesday, the Crown Prince accompanied Arab guests who attended the wedding on a tour of frontline positions of the 12th Royal Mechanised Division. The delegation were received by the division's commander and high-ranking officers who briefed the delegates on the units' duties and responsibilities on the frontlines.

The Crown Prince later took



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Tuesday takes Arab guests on a tour of frontline positions. The Arab guests were in Amman to attend Monday's wedding of His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Ibn Hussein and Her Royal Highness Princess Alia (Petra photo)

the group on a tour of the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) where they were briefed on the RSS' activities, progress and developments by RSS President Jawad Al Anani.

The visitors included Crown Prince of Morocco Prince Sidi Mohammed, Sheikh Mohammad, Alaa Mubarak and Jamal

Mubarak, sons of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Bassel Al Assad, son of Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and Crown Prince of Bahrain Sheikh Hamad Ibn Isa Al Khalifa.

Sheikh Khalifa flew out of Amman later Tuesday. He was seen off at the airport by Prince Hassan and senior Jordanian officials.

Iraq vows to keep up attacks

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq said Tuesday it would attack Iranian economic and military targets until Tehran accepted a peaceful solution to the Gulf war based on last month's U.N. Security Council resolution.

"Our annihilating blows against enemy installations will continue to play an active and destructive role in causing a deterioration of its military, political and economic situation till it responds to the call of wisdom," said an editorial in 'Al Thawra', newspaper of Iraq's ruling Baath Party.

More than 100 Iraqi warplanes attacked refineries at Tabriz in northern Iran and five oil sites in central and southern Iran on

Monday, ending a 25-day lull in air raids on Iranian economic targets.

Diplomats in Baghdad said they expected the attacks to aggravate the situation in the Gulf and might push Iran into retaliating with strikes against shipping.

The ruler of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, received a message Tuesday from President Saddam Hussein of Iraq.

The message was delivered by Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz.

The contents of the Iraqi message were not disclosed.

Mr. Aziz also conferred with his Kuwaiti counterpart.

Peres and Hill hold talks on Mideast peace moves

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — U.S. special envoy Charles Hill met Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and discussed Middle East peace moves on Tuesday but neither disclosed details of the talks.

"Our talks went across the whole range of the problem and some of the insights were very useful," Mr. Hill, an assistant of Secretary of State George Shultz, told reporters.

He arrived on Sunday in a mission said aimed at persuading hard-line Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir to drop his opposition to an international Middle East peace conference. Mr. Hill met Mr. Shamir on Monday and will meet him again on Wednesday.

Mr. Peres was unavailable for comment on Tuesday. Foreign Ministry spokesman Ehud Gol said the first part of the Hill-Peres meeting was also attended by special U.S. Middle East envoy Walt Cluverius and that in the second hour, Mr. Peres and Mr.

Hill talked privately.

Israeli media have said Mr. Hill came to Israel prepared to offer enticements, including a U.S. commitment to maintain Israel's military-technological superiority in the region and written guarantees regarding the nature of the proposed peace conference.

Mr. Hill will report back to Mr. Shultz by the weekend.

Mr. Shamir firmly opposes the conference idea, saying it would force it to make "territorial concessions."

Shamir aides said he reiterated his opposition in his meeting with Mr. Hill on Monday.

Mr. Peres backs such a forum, saying it is the only way to get the Arabs to the negotiating table.

Gol said Mr. Peres earlier Tuesday told a group of Democratic congressmen visiting Israel that the 1973 Geneva peace conference could serve as a model for future Middle East peace talks.

"In that conference, the process that led to (the) Camp David

(agreement with Egypt) actually began, and he (Mr. Peres) sees nothing wrong with trying to imitate that model..." Gol said.

The conference was convened in December 1973 by the United Nations and was attended by Israel, Egypt, Jordan, the United States and the Soviet Union. Various committees were to discuss bilateral issues, but the conference was not reconvened after the opening session.

The foreign ministry said in a statement issued later Tuesday that Mr. Peres and Mr. Hill "expressed the opinion that one should not let the chance for advancing the peace process in the area pass."

The statement said Mr. Peres and Mr. Hill discussed dangers facing the Middle East, such as the arms race and growing Islamic fundamentalism.

They also talked about positive developments, such as progress in peace efforts, the "weakening of extremist elements" and the improvement of relations between Israel and Egypt.

Foreign ministry officials have said Mr. Peres is tentatively scheduled to visit the United States in late September, spending one week at the United Nations in New York and a second week visiting the West Coast.

Tamils accuse Sri Lankan army of violating ceasefire

COLOMBO (Agencies) — A Tamil militant group has said the Sri Lankan army had violated the ceasefire in the east, and that the violations would force the radicals to review their decision to surrender arms.

The information secretary for the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam told a news conference Monday in Jaffna that Sri Lanka soldiers opened fire Sunday in three villages in the Trincomalee district, injuring an unspecified number of civilians.

The spokesman, Deelepan, was quoted by the Jaffna-based Eelam newspaper as saying the Tigers would review the decision to surrender arms because of the incidents in Trincomalee district, 300 kilometres north of Colombo.

The government media centre in Colombo denied charges of ceasefire violations.

"Indian troops are also in Trincomalee district monitoring the ceasefire... there has been no such complaint," said one government official.

Tamil rebels, who were fighting a four-year-old guerrilla war for a homeland in the north and east, are to surrender all their

His Majesty receives good wishes

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan on Tuesday celebrated the 35th anniversary of the coronation of His Majesty King Hussein.

On this occasion King Hussein received cables of good wishes wishing him success in the leadership of the Kingdom and more prosperity and progress for the Jordanians. The cables came from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, King Hassan II of Morocco, Sultan Qaboos of Oman, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah of Kuwait, Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahayan of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Sheikh Khalifa Ibn Hamad Al Thani of Qatar, Pakistani President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq, Sheikh Rashid Ibn Sa'id Al Maktoum of Dubai, Sheikh Hamad Ibn Khalifa Al Thani, heir apparent of Qatar, and Sheikh Khalifa Ibn Salman Al Khalifa, prime minister of Bahrain.

Cables also came to the King from key public figures and prominent heads of public and private organisations and members of the public in Jordan including Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Akawi and Lower House Speaker Akel Al Fayed. Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, the directors of the public security, intelligence and civil defence departments and the chief Islamic justice.

On this occasion, which was marked by a public holiday in Jordan, the Ministry of Communications issued two sets of commemorative stamps. One set bears the logo of the Sahab Industrial City and the other bears the Kingdom's insignia.

The Ministry of Communications said that the stamps will be put in circulation immediately.

Chad calls on Libya to pull out of Aouzou

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast (AP) — Chadian Foreign Minister Goura Lassou says his country is determined to hold territory seized from Libya in the disputed Aouzou Strip.

"We firmly believe we have to do everything necessary ... to recover our territorial integrity," Mr. Goura Lassou told Ivory Coast television following talks Monday with President Felix Houphouët-Boigny.

Tripoli has occupied the mineral-rich strip, a band of desert between northern Chad and southern Libya, for 14 years.

Although its forces were driven out of northern Chad in March, Libya claims it owns the strip under a pre-World War II treaty between France and Italy, the two countries' former colonial rulers. Italy never ratified the agreement, and France invalidated it.

According to the Chadian government, fighting erupted Saturday morning when Libyan troops attacked a Chadian desert post near Bardai, about 145 kilometres south of the Libyan border.

On Monday, Chad Radio reported that Libyan warplanes attacked Chadian troop positions in the Aouzou in the second day of aerial bombing in retaliation for the weekend attack.

"We know there are still great threats (to us) because there is a big Libyan base not far from (Aouzou)," Mr. Lassou said.

But he said that since the administrative centre of Aouzou is in a mountainous area, it is very difficult to attack.

"From this locality one can defend the rest of the territory," Mr. Lassou said. "We think the Libyans must think about this and see to it that peace returns between our two peoples."

Mr. Lassou's remarks made clear that Libyans continued to occupy the northern portion of the strip.

Chad says Libya has been carrying out "incessant" bombing attacks on the captured areas and that Libyan jets bombed the

recaptured desert oasis of Faya-Largeau 450 kilometres to the south.

Chad Radio reported Sunday that Libyan planes dropped napalm on the town of Aouzou and nearby villages.

The radio reported Monday that 437 Libyans were killed and 61 captured in weekend fighting in Aouzou. It said 17 Chadian soldiers were killed and 45 injured.

Chad's ambassador to France, Ahmad Al-Houderi, said in an interview on French television Sunday that the fighting involved 2,000 to 3,000 men.

Libya's official news agency JANA reported Monday that Libyan leader Col. Muammar Qaddafi pledged "the determination (of Libya) to push back the aggression and eliminate its causes."

In Paris, Libyan Charge d'Affaires Hamad Al-Houderi said his country considered the Chadian moves "an act of war."

Tripoli Radio, monitored Sunday in London, claimed Chad was "aided by France and imperialist forces."

Libya has supported rebels opposing the government of President Hissene Habre, claiming he was illegally installed in power with the help of U.S. and French forces.

But French President Francois Mitterrand, speaking to reporters in Paris on Monday, said Mr. Habre had taken the military action on his own.

"The action that was undertaken in the (Aouzou) zone was undertaken by (Mr. Habre) himself and the forces of his country — a sovereign country and, I repeat, independent."

Mr. Mitterrand said France still recommended international arbitration to settle the dispute.

French military sources have described Mr. Habre's victory in March as the worst defeat suf-

fered by Libya since Mr. Qaddafi took power in a 1969 coup. Western military sources say the retreating Libyan army left behind hundreds of millions of dollars worth of sophisticated military weapons.

Western diplomatic and military sources put Libyan troop strength in northern Chad at 10,000. Chadian sources in Paris estimated there were 15,000 troops in the region.

Libya appeared ready Tuesday to exploit its air superiority to attack towns deep inside Chad territory.

The London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies said in late 1986 Libya had 489 combat aircraft, including seven Soviet-made Tupolev TU-22 bombers. Chad had two.

Chad captured some Libyan military hardware, including aircraft, when it took two airbases in March. But its forces are untrained in modern warfare and the country remains dependent on France for air defence assistance.

France has 1,200 men backed by Jaguar bombers and Mirage fighters in Chad. Their action, however, has been largely restricted to the south of the country.

Excluding casualties from the Aouzou action, military sources said more than 3,000 Libyans have been killed in Chad this year.

Mr. Habre announced a new cabinet Monday which included several former rebel leaders, though he retained the defence portfolio.

The cabinet changes followed months of fruitless reconciliation talks with ousted President Goukouni Goukouni, who has been living in exile in Algiers since he broke with Libya in February.

Chad Radio said former rebel leader Abdul Kadar Wadel Kamougue would hold the post of agriculture minister in the new cabinet. Col. Alphonse Kotiga, a former leader of a southern rebel group, was named to head the Ministry of Mines and Energy.

Mine blast off Fujairah poses new problem for U.S. convoy

BAHRAIN (R) — A mine that blasted a supertanker outside the Gulf was apparently aimed at American warships and could further disrupt U.S. escort plans for Kuwaiti vessels, Western military sources said Tuesday.

They said the damage to the 274,347-tonne Texaco Caribbean Monday could persuade the U.S. Navy to switch from the anchorage point used to assemble convoys for the run through treacherous Gulf waters to oil-producing Kuwait.

But heavy monsoon swells outside the Gulf leave few alternative staging areas for U.S. warships and could hamper the escort operations considerably.

The Texaco tanker hit the mine 12 miles off the United Arab Emirates (UAE) port of Fujairah, very close to the anchorage used by the United States to form its first two convoys of reflagged Kuwaiti tankers.

"You have to work on the assumption the mine was laid by Iran and aimed at the U.S. fleet that forms up off Fujairah," said one military source. "The chances of it drifting there by accident are one in a million."

Three more mines were spotted in the same area Tuesday and shipping sources said the U.S. Navy was sending experts to identify them and establish how long they had been in the water.

The Gulf of Oman had been regarded as a safe haven for shipping and the Texaco Caribbean blast caused alarm in the world tanker market.

Military sources said it seemed most likely the mines were dropped over the side of small Iranian boats in the area.

In mid-year strong currents in the Gulf of Oman flow north and would not carry mines down from the Strait of Hormuz where Iran held naval manoeuvres and practised mine-laying last week.

The American-owned Texaco tanker, flying the Panamanian flag and chartered by a Norwegian company, was loaded with Iranian crude when the mine ripped a hole in its hull.

The sources said Iran would hardly have targeted a vessel carrying its own oil, reinforcing the theory that the mine was aimed at the U.S. convoy staging area.

Three U.S. warships and three Kuwaiti tankers flying the Stars and Stripes had anchored off Fujairah before heading through the strait into the Gulf under cover of darkness last Saturday.

The first two convoys remained at anchor for several days while U.S. captains on the reflagged Kuwaiti tankers were briefed, new crews flown in and supplies ferried from Fujairah.

The U.S. Navy kept constant air cover and surveillance from the nearby carrier Constellation, which has a complement of F-14 fighter aircraft.

U.S. carrier group in Alexandria

CAIRO (AP) — A five-ship U.S. Navy carrier group has arrived at Alexandria before joining in the joint six-day Bright Star '87 Manoeuvres that will involve naval, air and ground forces.

These will be the fourth in the series of Bright Star war games held by the United States and Egypt every two years since 1981. Their aim is to give Egyptian forces the benefit of U.S. military skills and give U.S. forces combat experience in Middle Eastern terrain and climate.

Col. Nagi Tohami, the Egyptian army's spokesman, announced this month's manoeuvres at a news conference on July 28. He said the number of participating U.S. troops will be the same as in 1985, when more than 9,000 troops from each side took part.

Col. Tohami said Bright Star '87 "will provide an opportunity for U.S. and Egyptian forces to engage in combined land, naval and air training."

The U.S. embassy spokesman said information from the American side will have to come from the Pentagon in Washington.

The spokesman said the group led by the aircraft carrier Saratoga steamed into Alexandria on Sunday.

Accompanying the Saratoga were the Virginia, a nuclear-powered guided-missile cruiser, the guided-missile destroyer William V. Pratt, the destroyer Conolly and the frigate Bowen.

The spokesman said the group was making a "routine port call" at Alexandria before joining in the joint six-day Bright Star '87 Manoeuvres that will involve naval, air and ground forces.

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These will be the fourth in the series of Bright Star war games held by the United States and Egypt every two years since 1981. Their aim is to give Egyptian forces the benefit of U.S. military skills and give U.S. forces combat experience in Middle Eastern terrain and climate.

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Kahane sets up militia training camp for teenagers

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli members of parliament expressed outrage over the disclosure Tuesday that 60 Jewish teenagers have been training with "high-powered weapons at a camp set up by anti-Arab Rabbi Meir Kahane."

The parliamentarians demanded that the police arrest the organisers after a picture in the daily Yedioth Ahronoth showed one of a dozen yellow-shirted followers of Kahane's Kach Party learning to fire an Uzi sub-machine-gun in a Jerusalem forest.

New York-born Kahane, a parliamentarian, told Reuters the week-long camp was part of a three-year-old Kach Party programme under which youths aged 14 to 16 learned to operate high-powered rifles while studying sacred Jewish texts.

"Our youngsters are being trained to realise this is a country that will never have peace and is surrounded by an implacable enemy," Kahane said.

Parliamentarian Ran Cohen of the leftist Citizens Rights Movement said the camp threatened Israeli democracy and violated laws that only the security forces could offer weapons training.

"I expect the police and security forces will arrest those responsible, investigate their intentions and suppress any possibility that a political army would emerge that aims to damage democracy and the existence of a Jewish state," Cohen said.

Kahane, who campaigns for the expulsion of the two million Arabs under Israeli occupation, said the training was legal.

"Half the time is spent studying the Torah, half the time legally training with weapons," Kahane said. "We want to put out a scholar-warrior."

The daily Yedioth Ahronoth said Sharon would reveal that as early as 1979 the defence establishment had prepared a plan to drive the PLO out of Beirut. The newspaper said it had an advance copy of portions of the speech.

In a book entitled The Lebanon War, Israeli military correspondents Zeev Schiff and Ehud Yaari criticised Sharon for misleading Israel's cabinet and then-Prime Minister Menachem Begin about his intention to go behind the 40-kilometre line, which resulted in clashes with the Syrians.

The authors claimed only Sharon knew the ultimate goal of the invasion and army commanders did not perform as well as might be expected because they were not told of the plan to go to Beirut.

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In the radio interview, Sharon said he would disclose how military and political decisions were reached at the time during a speech to the Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies at Tel Aviv University.

Shatilla residents appeal to Syria

BEIRUT (AP) — Some 300 Palestinians demonstrated at a Syrian military checkpoint at the Shatilla refugee camp on Tuesday, calling on Syria to allow the reconstruction of the devastated shantytown before winter.

The demonstrators, including women and children, brandished placards that appealed to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad to permit reconstruction materials to enter Shatilla in Syrian-controlled west Beirut.

One placard read: "Hafez, Hafez, reconstruction of the camps is a national and patriotic duty." Others said: "Hafez Al Assad, lift the (military) siege of Shatilla," and "the siege continues while the winter season is coming."

The protesters, chanting "Brothers should not allow the continuation of the siege," also staged a two-hour sit-in near the Syrian checkpoint at Shatilla's southern entrance.

Syrian troops, who deployed in west Beirut last Feb. 22 to curb militia lawlessness, have lifted a Lebanese militia siege of Shatilla and the sprawling Bourj Al Barajneh refugee camp in April.

But they have been forbidding reconstruction materials from reaching either shantytown.

Canadian surgeon Chris Giannou, who works at the Shatilla hospital, also complained of the lack of reconstruction: "The residence of the doctors and nurses has great gaping holes in the ceilings and in the walls. When

the rain falls we'll have no place to live."

The 38-year-old physician from Toronto, who has not left the camp since October 1985, spoke in an interview at Shatilla's only hospital.

He said the reconstruction of Shatilla should be dealt with separately from the political differences between fighters of the Palestine Liberation Organisation and Syrian-backed Shi'ite Amal militiamen of Lebanon's Justice Minister Nabih Berri.

"The social and humanitarian questions, like electricity and water supply, sewage and garbage disposal, schooling, health services, education and reconstruction — should be dealt with separately," Dr. Giannou said.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION	23:00	News Summary
Tel. 77411-19	23:05	Evening Show Continued
	23:57	News Headlines
	24:00	Close Down
PROGRAMME ONE		
15:30	Review of programmes	
15:50	Cartoons and Children's programmes	
17:30	Small Wonder	
18:00	St. Elsewhere Hospital	
18:30	Arabic series	
19:30	Local programme	
20:00	News in Arabic	
20:30	Arabic series	
21:30	Cultural programme	
22:00	Wrestling	
23:00	News in Arabic	
23:10	Wrestling contd.	
PROGRAMME TWO		
18:00	Cine files a pairs	
19:00	News in French	
19:15	Ajoud'hui en Jordanie	
19:30	News in Hebrew	
19:45	Sports Magazine	
20:00	News in Arabic	
20:30	Don't Wait Up	
21:10	The Silk Road	
22:00	News in English	
22:30	The Wheels	
RADIO JORDAN		
NSS KHz. AM & 90 MHz. FM & partly on 96.0 KHz. SW Tel. 77411-19		
07:00	Light Music	
07:30	News	
08:00	Morning Show	
09:00	News Summary	
10:00	Morning Show Contd.	
11:00	Men from the Ministry	
11:30	Songs from the Ministry	
12:00	News Summary	
12:30	Readings	
13:00	Pop Session	
13:30	News Summary	
14:00	Pop Session	
14:30	News Bulletin	
15:00	Concert Hour	
15:30	News in Summary	
16:00	Instrumentals	
16:30	Old Favourites	
17:00	Jordan Weekly	
17:30	Pop Session	
18:00	News Summary	
18:30	Now Music	
19:00	Music	
19:30	News Date with a Star	
20:00	Evening Show	
20:30	News Summary	
21:00	Evening Show Contd.	
21:30	News Summary	
22:00	Evening Show Continued	

WHAT'S GOING ON

CULTURAL CENTRES	SERVICE CLUBS
Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267	The Amman Lions Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Regency Palace Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
American Centre Tel. 641520	Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
British Council Tel. 636478	Philadelphian Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 12:00 p.m.
French Cultural Centre Tel. 63709	Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2:00 p.m.
Goethe Institute Tel. 641993	Royal Automobile Club. Jabel Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 816534, 817534.
Spanish Cultural Centre Tel. 624049	
Turkish Cultural Centre Tel. 63977	
Haya Arts Centre Tel. 665195	
Husseini Youth City Tel. 6671816	
Y.W.C.A. Tel. 641993	
Amman Municipal Library Tel. 637111	
Univ. of Jordan Library Tel. 843555	
MUSEUMS	CHURCHES
"Children's Heritage and Science Museum." Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.	St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Amman, Tel. 624590.
Folklore Museum. Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (5th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 631760.	Terra Sancta Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Amman, Tel. 625383.
Jordan Archaeological Museum. Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.	De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Amman, Tel. 661757.
Jordan National Gallery. Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Muziah, Jabel Al-Lawbi. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.	Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 771531.
Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum). Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.	Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, Tel. 771531.
PRAYER TIMES	
04:32 Maghrib (Sunset) Fajr	
05:38 (Sunrise) Dhuhr	
12:40 Asr	
16:28 Maghrib	
19:24 Isha	

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08) 532005, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

09:35	Doha (RJ)
10:15	Agaba (RJ)
18:15	Cairo (RJ)
18:30	Kuwait (RJ)
18:30	Dhahran (RJ)
18:30	Dhahran (RJ)
18:30	Bahrain (RJ)
18:30	Kuwait (add.) (RJ)
11:00	Doha, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
17:30	Cairo (RJ)
18:00	Larnaka (RJ)
18:40	Athens (RJ)
18:50	New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
19:05	London, Geneva (RJ)
19:05	Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)
19:15	Istanbul (RJ)
19:30	Madrid, Belgrade (RJ)
19:45	Bangkok (RJ)
06:25	Baghdad (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

08:25	Karachi (PK)
13:30	Cairo (MS)
13:40	Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF)
14:35	Kuwait (KU)
15:45	Tripoli (LN)
16:00	Jeddah, Medina (SV)
16:00	Damascus (SY)
17:30	Baghdad (IA)
18:30	Paris, Damascus (AF)
19:25	Beirut (ME)
21:00	Frankfurt (LH)
23:50	Tripoli (AL)
06:45	London, Cairo (BA)

DEPARTURES ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

03:30	Doha (RJ)
06:40	Kuwait (add.) (RJ)
08:00	Agaba (RJ)
22:50	Vienna, New York (RJ)
23:50	Albair (RJ)
12:45	London, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)

13:00	London (RJ)
13:50	Cairo (RJ)
14:00	Istanbul (RJ)
14:50	Larnaka (RJ)

20:30	Riyadh (RJ)
20:35	Kuwait (RJ)
20:40	Dhahran (RJ)
20:45	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
20:50	Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
20:50	Baghdad (RJ)
21:00	Jeddah (RJ)
21:15	Cairo (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

07:00	Cairo, London (BA)
08:30	Larnaka, Zurich (SR)
09:25	Tripoli (FK)
18:35	Rome (AZ)
13:00	Damascus (SY)
14:05	Cairo (MS)
14:45	Doha, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GF)
15:35	Kuwait (KU)
16:45	Kuwait (LN)
17:00	Sanaa (YV)
17:40	Medina, Jeddah (SV)
18:30	Baghdad (IA)
06:50	Karachi (PK)

MONEY EXCHANGE

Monday rates

Local sell/buy rates in Jls.

Belgian franc	88.3/ 89.1
Dutch guilder	162.7/ 164
French franc	54.9/ 55.5
Italian lira	25.3/ 25.5
Syassian yen (for 100)	228.1/ 231
Swedish crown	52.6/ 53.1
Swiss franc	22.1/ 22.8
U.K. sterling pound	540.9/ 547.7
U.S. dollar	346.3/ 349.2
W. German mark	183/ 185.1

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be normal summer weather, with northwesterly moderate winds. In Agaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm sea.

	Min./max. temp.
Amman	21/ 33
Agaba	26/ 41
Deserts	24/ 39
Jordan Valley	22/ 39

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 35, Agaba 43. Humidity readings: Amman 19 per cent, Agaba 13 per cent.

Butros preparing for new role as ambassador to U.K.

By Lami K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Dr. Albert Butros, the distinguished Jordanian academician, researcher, English language and social science scholar, is soon to assume his new post as Jordan's ambassador to Britain.

Despite the fact that Dr. Butros has served in a number of important public positions in Jordan, including that of the president of the Royal Scientific Society (RSS), and of special advisor to His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the new post represents a dramatic shift in his life.

A holder of a doctorate in English language from Columbia University and a member of a number of prestigious international scientific and educational bodies, Dr. Butros has so far led a remarkably low-profile life.

Thus, when the Jordan Times contacted Dr. Butros for an interview, he was reluctant at first saying "that it was still premature for me to speak about a post and a responsibility I have not assumed yet."

He was finally convinced when it was explained that the idea was to discuss how an academic, who has not been directly involved in politics, perceived the role of an ambassador.

The interview took place at Dr. Butros' house, behind the University of Jordan, where the veteran professor had spent a large part of his life teaching English literature to generations of young Jordanians and had served twice as the dean of the English Department from 1967-1973 and again from 1974-1976.

His wife and four daughters were clearly bracing themselves for the new change as boxes of belongings were neatly stacked

around the house. Dr. Butros, although calm and self-restrained, sounded enthusiastic, confident yet also cautious, as he discussed his future responsibility.

"A change of my career direction is not exactly new for me," he said. "Over the years, I shifted among a number of positions which were sometimes very different in terms of the responsibility and duties, he added.

Since his graduation from Columbia University in 1963, he has taught English at all levels, from elementary schools in Amman to universities in America and Britain.

Dr. Butros assumed his first public post in 1976 as president and director general of the RSS and stayed there until 1984 when he became a special advisor to the Crown Prince.

Dr. Butros hopes that his experience in public life will help him fulfill his role successfully as an ambassador to his country.

"On the surface, it (being an ambassador) might look entirely new, but when one looks deeply into the situation and considers what is expected from an ambassador, one finds that while diplomatic experience counts for a great deal, general experience in public life counts for a great deal also," he argued.

"I have had some of that in public service and especially in association with the Crown Prince," he said.

There is no doubt that there are scores of examples of non-career diplomats who did exceptionally well in this field. The Jordanian diplomatic and press corps still remember the former Pakistani ambassador, Ihsan Rashid, who was a respected academic who became a successful diplomat when his country called upon him.



Dr. Albert Butros

In Dr. Butros' view, there are many qualities which contribute to the making of an effective ambassador. "An ambassador has to be a general man of culture and a man of world affairs," he observed.

Experience in public administration could be very helpful for a successful diplomat, but other personal qualities are also relevant, he argued. The personal features could include "patience and tact," he said.

"But most of all, the diplomat has to have what I would call common sense," the future diplomat observed.

"I hope that I have some of these qualities," he said, "and I hope they will come in handy."

Despite Dr. Butros' rather understated assessment of his abilities his impressive record in public service and his contributions to the works of international organisations clearly indicate his humanitarian and cosmopolitan nature.

After all, Dr. Butros was and still is a member of a number of distinguished regional and international institutions and organisations. These include the Science Advisory Committee of UNESCO, and the executive committee of the World Association

of Industrial and Technological Research. He chaired a consultative group of experts on science and technology policy for the United Nations Education, Culture and Science Organisation (UNESCO) between 1981 and 1983.

Dr. Butros' contributions to scientific and cultural causes have been recognised at home and by the international community. He has received the Order of Merit (Grande Officiere) from Italy. In 1986, he was admitted as a fellow to the prestigious World Academy of Art and Sciences.

Dr. Butros is now hoping to do equally well by serving his country's interests in London, a post that is considered one of the most important in the Jordanian foreign diplomatic service.

Dr. Butros believes that the goals he should strive to achieve as an ambassador relate to four important areas: the ability to represent and explain Jordan's causes, especially the Palestinian issue and the Iran-Iraq war to enhance the "already strong" Jordanian-British relations in all spheres, to serve the interests of the Jordanian expatriates there, and to actively contribute to an effective representation and presentation of Arab culture.

In Dr. Butros' view, taking into consideration the hostile pro-Zionist campaign against Arab causes and culture, one of the main responsibilities of an Arab ambassador is to try to present the Arab cause "in measured terms."

In other words, representatives of the Arab nations abroad should be able to address the Western mind, or else their efforts to promote the Arab cause will be to no avail or even have an adverse effect.

Although Dr. Butros, who was born in Jerusalem in 1934, evaded discussing any specific

political views, it was evident throughout the interview that he felt strongly about the need to clarify the Arab stands to international public opinion.

He conceded, however, that the Arab countries have not been very effective influencing world public opinion and he blamed this failure on inter-Arab division. "Unfortunately, we do not have one voice," he noted.

He expressed the view that Jordan should strive to develop "an information consensus to overcome this problem... exactly just as the Kingdom is now seeking to achieve Arab consensus on the major Arab issues."

Yet, until that is achieved, he believes that it is the responsibility of Arab ambassadors to make clear the Arab positions.

In his view, an ambassador has to widen his contacts to reach all sectors of the society in which he functions. "You cannot just talk to the already converted all the time but you must try to reach the sceptics to further your cause," he said.

"Consequently one aspect of my duties as an ambassador is to try to meet as many people in positions of influence as I can," he said, stressing the significance of "interaction" as a relevant element to advance Arab causes abroad.

"I do not know to what extent one ambassador can make a difference (in light of the absence of a unified Arab information policy)," he said.

Dr. Butros, who said that ambassadors should try to work their best even under the prevailing circumstances, stressed, however, that Arab diplomacy would be by far more effective if an information consensus is achieved.

Dr. Butros is expected to leave for London on August 12.

Special Olympics team returns to Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — The sports team representing Jordan at the 7th International Special Olympics for the Mentally Handicapped, held in the U.S. from July 31 to August 8, has returned to Amman after achieving outstanding results.

The nine-member Jordanian team won two gold medals, two silver medals and three bronze medals in the International Special Olympics which were held at the Notre Dame University in Indiana. Her Majesty Queen Noor attended the opening ceremonies.

The Special Olympics involved 4,500 people from 72 countries, taking part in track and field events.

The team was headed by Dr. Yaser Salem, a member of the Jordanian Sports Federation for the Handicapped (JSFH) and director general of the Nazek Al Hariri Centre of Special Education.

Last year, the Jordanian Committee for the Special Olympics for the Mentally Handicapped was set up under the supervision of Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid.

Founded by Mrs. Eunice Kennedy Shriver in 1968, the Special Olympics is the world's largest programme — of year round sports training and competition in the Olympic tradition which gives mentally retarded children and adults the chance to strengthen their character, develop their physical skills, display their talents and fulfil their human potential.

The 1987 International Summer Special Olympic Games mark the first time that Jordan has been represented.

Czech diplomat urges improving ties with Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — Czechoslovakia's charge d'affaires in Jordan Dr. Emil Hrusovsky voiced his country's desire for developing its relations with Jordan, particularly in economic and cultural affairs.

He was speaking at a meeting held at the Foreign Ministry. The secretary general of the ministry, Nabih Al Nimer, reviewed with the ambassador Jordanian-Czechoslovakian relations and also developments in the Middle East region.

Irbid forms oversight panel

IRBID (Petra) — Irbid Governor Akram Al Naser has formed a committee from local municipal councils and organisations to help supervise the implementation of projects in the Irbid region.

He made the announcement at a meeting of the joint services councils of Irbid Governorate.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Prime minister meets with ambassadors

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai on Tuesday conferred with Jordan's ambassador to six Arab and foreign countries on issues of common concern to Jordan and the respective countries. Mr. Rifai met with Faleh Tawil, ambassador to the Soviet Union, Jamal Khotat, ambassador to India, Talal Al Hassan, ambassador to Tunisia, Nayef Al Hadid, ambassador to Oman, Amjad Majali, ambassador to Bahrain and Awad Abu Obeid, ambassador to Algeria. The Jordan News Agency, Petra, which reported the meetings, did not disclose details.

TCC apologises for late telephone bills

AMMAN (Petra) — The Telecommunications Corporation, TCC, on Tuesday issued an announcement apologising for not issuing bills to telephone subscribers for calls made during June 1987. TCC Director Mohammad Shahid Ismail said the delay was caused by a computer system failure. Mr. Ismail said the bills, which were to have been issued by July 18 for the Greater Amman region, will be distributed to subscribers next week.

University president meets with officials

AMMAN (Petra) — University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Al Majali recently received Dr. Farouq Mursheid, head of the dentistry department at Howard University in the U.S. They discussed joint cooperation between the two universities especially the exchange of scientific and practical expertise. Dr. Majali also received the President of Beirut Arab University Dr. Mohammad Abdul Rahim.

Masri: Foreign naval presence needed to counter Iranian threat

By Rabab Mango
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri said Tuesday that Jordan in principle does not welcome the presence of foreign naval forces in Arab territorial waters, but Iran's misbehaviour has created a justification for this presence.

Speaking in interview with the Jordan Times and the Arabic daily Al Rai, the minister described Kuwait's resort to refuelling its oil tankers as a form of protection for its ships from possible Iranian attacks.

"In fact, it was a clever solution for the problem, helping to ensure a continuous flow of life in the Arab Gulf region," the minister said.

Commenting on Moscow's views about the presence of foreign fleets in the Gulf, Mr. Masri said he "supports the Soviet Union's call for a withdrawal of all naval forces from that area once Iran has stopped its threats to oil tankers."

On the proposed international Middle East peace conference, Mr. Masri denied the proposal has reached a dead end.

He said there were no practical alternatives for the proposed conference, and all that has been reported was no more than "theoretical options" on the diplomatic scene.

"The proposed conference is the only means of arriving at a peaceful settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict in the light of the diplomatic and international considerations inside and outside this region," Mr. Masri said.

Commenting on the rejection of the conference idea by Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and on the U.S. stand vis-a-vis the conference, Mr. Masri said the idea of the conference has won the support of many nations and many people in Israel itself. "The longer the delay in holding the conference, the more complicated matters become," the minister said. The chance of holding the conference before the end of 1987 could improve once Israel's rejection, which is the biggest stumbling bloc, is removed, he said.

Mr. Masri described a visit by an envoy of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz to Israel as an attempt to persuade Shamir to accept the idea of the international conference.

Mr. Masri also expressed fear of further delay in holding the conference and said "if we reach positive steps leading to the convening of the conference, we might encounter negative steps and events that might lead to adverse results."

Asked to comment on the present level of political coordination between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), Mr. Masri said there is no political coordination between the two sides and the level of relations remains unchanged. He said the Jordanian-PLO relations are "neutralised" and political contacts between them, although they exist, are not intensive.

Asked to comment on statements by PLO members that the organisation might enter into a separate peace with Israel, Mr. Masri said the PLO leadership has denied such statements which, though coming from PLO members, could not mean that the PLO would follow this course of action.

Mr. Masri expressed the view that a solution for the Palestine question should take place within a pan-Arab framework in which the PLO should participate as a main partner but that it should not reach a unilateral solution with Israel.

The minister said the PLO has not rejected the idea of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian team to the international Middle East peace conference. However, he said, "I still think the PLO's stand with regard to the proposed conference is somewhat ambiguous."

Jordan believes a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to the conference is the most ideal solution for what Mr. Masri termed "practical considerations." Mr. Masri referred to a statement by the PLO's executive committee following the abrogation of the Amman accord which stated that the PLO was still adhering to the principles of that accord.

Arab Mayor: U.N. must resolve JDEC issue

AMMAN (J.T.) — The deported Arab mayor of Jerusalem, Rawhi Al Khatib has proclaimed that the problem of the Jerusalem District Electricity Company (JDEC) must be referred to the United Nations Security Council in an attempt to stop Israel's seizure of the Arab-owned company.

Israel's actions since 1968 are in violation of the rights and the concessions given to the company, and represent part of Israel's plan to absorb Arab territory into its jurisdiction, Mr. Khatib said in an interview published by the Al Doustour Arabic daily on Tuesday.

Arab countries should take the question of the JDEC to the United Nations and should also extend material support to the

Arab company to help foil Israel's takeover attempt, Mr. Khatib said.

On Sunday, Israel's cabinet endorsed a plan to prevent the JDEC, the largest Palestinian firm in the occupied territories, from supplying electricity to Jews from living within the Arab area. The plan would give the firm a 10-year extension of its present concession but turn over to Israel the supply of electricity to army bases and Jewish settlements in the occupied West Bank, according to Israeli officials.

The company has supplied electricity to both areas since Ottoman Turkish rule over Palestine and does not want to concede any part of its franchise when its 60-year concession ends this year.

The company currently supplies 65,000 Arabs and 35,000 Jews with electric power. Mr. Khatib, who was deported by the Israeli authorities, said gradual encroachment on Arab rights goes hand in hand with Israel's plans to swallow up Arab land and build Jewish settlements.

Israel has prevented the firm from buying new equipment and has forced it to purchase from Israel 90 per cent of the electricity it distributes to subscribers. Mr. Khatib expressed fear that the Israeli move will lead to lay off of many JDEC employees and is bound to reduce the company's revenues.

The Arab company, which employs some 450 people, has a debt of \$20 million.

JSMC holds 2-day meeting to review company issues

AQABA (J.T.) — The Jordanian Maritime Company (JSMC) opens a two-day meeting in Amman today to review the company's operations and cooperation between Jordan and Syria in maritime transport.

Mr. Eid Al Fayez, director general of the Jordan Ports Corporation, left for Damascus Tuesday to take part in the meeting. Jordan and Syria own cargo vessels which transport goods to and from Aqaba and Latakia, Syria as well as various European, Asian and African countries.

The company, based in Latakia owns two cargo vessels Barada and Yarmouk. Officials from both sides hold periodical meetings to review the company's operations, plan future expansion and prepare further programmes.

Import figures drop 18% from 1986 — report

AMMAN (J.T.) — A statistical bulletin issued by the Department of Statistics reveals that Jordanian imports of foreign products last April dropped 18 per cent over 1986 figures. The bulletin said Jordan imported products worth JD 66.9 million in April 1987 compared with JD 81.9 million in April 1986.

Also, according to the bulletin, Jordan last April witnessed a drop in imports over figures released in March, by almost eight per cent. It said imports in March 1987 were worth JD 72.5 million.

At the same time, Jordan's exports in April 1987 increased by 19 per cent over those of April 1986 registering JD 18.7 million against JD 15.7 million in April. April's exports in 1987 also registered an increase over those of March 1987 by four per cent according to the bulletin.

The bulletin said Jordan in April 1987 exported sheep, tomatoes, cucumbers, various types of vegetables, oranges, wheat, fodder concentrate, cigarettes, phosphate, cement, pharmaceutical products, chemical fertilisers, potash, chemical detergents, cotton, rayons and other products.

According to the bulletin, the following countries purchase products from Jordan: Iraq, Lebanon, Syria, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Dubai, Egypt, Turkey, India, Pakistan, Indonesia, China, Japan, Taiwan, Poland, Romania and Yugoslavia.

Jordan also purchased a large variety of products from Arab and foreign countries last April, including: meat, milk, apples, crude oil, medicine, tyres, metal, textiles, clothing, sheet metal, aluminium products, vehicles, furniture, and spare parts for aircraft.

Scare over mines rockets in Gulf

(Continued from page 1)

warships and commercial vessels, but not to help the U.S. navy protect oil tankers.

Defence Secretary George Younger said Britain changed its mind about sending minesweepers after Tuesday's discovery of new mines in the Gulf.

The four minesweepers and a support vessel will take five weeks to reach the Gulf to augment the longstanding armilla patrol of three royal navy warships which has been protecting British vessels.

But Mr. Younger stressed the minesweepers would not join the U.S. navy in escorting reflagged Kuwaiti tankers.

Britain has prided itself on keeping a low profile for its military force in the Gulf, but the addition of minesweepers will raise that low profile.

Twelve days ago, Britain turned down a U.S. request for minesweeping assistance after the tanker Bridgeton hit a mine en route to Kuwait.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government had argued then that sending British minesweepers might escalate tensions and lead to more widespread laying of mines.

"News of further mining in the Gulf area over the last 48 hours shows that a new situation has arisen," Mr. Younger told reporters at the Ministry of Defence.

"There is an increased danger from mines in the armilla patrol's operational area. The government has therefore decided to equip the armilla patrol with a minesweeping capability to enable it to continue to carry out its

task effectively," he said.

The four modern Hunt class vessels destined for the Gulf have glass-reinforced fiberglass hulls that will not explode magnetic mines, and they have high-definition sonar as well as underwater television cameras to search out mines on the seabed. They also can tow minesweeping gear to cut the tethers of anchored mines.

Mr. Younger said the United States had not made a new request for British assistance, and he emphasised repeatedly that the British minesweepers would not sail with the U.S. navy tanker escorts all the way to Kuwait in the northern head of the Gulf.

The armilla patrol, he said, would not be "expanded in any way to accompany any other ships other than British-flagged ships, as it has done in the past. There is no change in that at all."

In Paris, French Defence Minister Andre Giraud said France was sending two minesweepers to the Indian Ocean to help protect French shipping in the Gulf region after the discovery of mines outside the waterway.

He said the two minesweepers and a supply vessel would join the aircraft carrier Clemenceau and three escort ships now in the Gulf of Aden after a 13-day journey from France.

Mr. Giraud said the ships would "reinforce" the French naval array in the Indian Ocean.

The aircraft carrier Clemenceau, along with an oiler and two missile-launching frigates, was dispatched July 30 from Toulon on the Mediterranean coast.

A Defence Ministry spokesman said France's decision was independent of the British move, but resulted from the same logic.

In an ironic twist, Iran on Tuesday offered to sweep mines from the Gulf of Oman after blaming the United States for the mine there that hit the Texaco tanker on Monday.

Tehran radio quoted the official war information spokesman as saying "America or its agents laid the mine" hit by the Texaco tanker.

"America is trying to make the Gulf and Gulf of Oman unsafe and is trying to create grounds for greater intervention in the region," the spokesman said.

In Washington, Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger said the United States was trying to convince other nations to join in creating an international naval force for mine-sweeping operations anywhere in the world.

Mr. Weinberger, in a breakfast meeting with Pentagon correspondents, said he would not discuss the initiative in detail because such talk "would destroy the hope completely."

But he said such an international mine-sweeping force could obviously be deployed to the Gulf.

"I would hope we could look forward to an international mine-sweeping force, made up of a number of nations that do not have a direct relationship with the Gulf, because it's to the interest of all maritime nations to have international bodies of waters kept free of hazards of that kind," Mr. Weinberger said.

U.S. jet opens fire

(Continued from page 1)

are based in Oman and normally operate over the Gulf of Oman and the Strait of Hormuz rather than actually inside the Gulf.

Defence officials did not make clear what type of Iranian planes were involved in the incident or whether it occurred over the Strait of Hormuz, the Gulf of Oman or the Northern Arabian Sea.

The officials said radar indicated two Iranian aircraft were approaching the four-engine P-3C Orion plane and that the Orion, believing it was being threatened, sought help from the American fighters.

One F-14 fired a missile at one of the Iranian planes, an official said.

"There was no indication of a hit," he said.

The New York Times and Washington Post quoted other sources as saying the U.S. plane fired two missiles at the Iranian plane after it ignored warnings to turn back.

The Times said the Iranian plane then veered sharply away, indicating its pilot was experienced.

The sophisticated F-14 was from the U.S. aircraft carrier Constellation patrolling outside the Gulf in case of any large Iranian attack against the U.S. convoys.

The P-3C is used for anti-submarine warfare but is packed with electronic gear that can also search for other planes in its vicinity.

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The need to keep calm

THERE are two reasons why the Gulf situation is now considerably more alarming than it was two weeks ago. One is that the Meccan tragedy has brutally intensified the polarisation of the region — offering the hideous prospect of a wider Arab-Iranian conflict which would also have a Sunni-Shi'ite character. The other reason for alarm is the now apparent lack of political and strategic foresight in the U.S. intervention.

All these concerns should not allow the essential purpose of the one positive factor in recent weeks — U.N. Security Council Resolution 598 — to be forgotten. This is the ending of an atrocious seven-year war. The position now is that severe international pressure is being placed upon Iraq not to resume maritime hostilities in the Gulf. If it agrees the situation will move inexorably to its disadvantage as Iran will be free to pursue the war on land. The Iranians continue their triumphalist declarations, intensified since the Mecca incident, which make them appear to be threatening the whole world, but the reality is that so far a skillful pragmatic strategy has predominated. Iran's U.N. representative Dr. Khorassani, while voicing his threats against Kuwait, has made it clear that Iran will not make the first move in a renewed tanker war. Even the closure of Iran's territorial waters for manoeuvres, while appropriately defiant, stops just short of the ultimate provocation. Meanwhile the use of mines perfectly suits Iran's purpose. They have already revealed the weakness of the mighty U.S. navy but even if one was to cause much more serious damage it could hardly justify some overwhelming counterstrike against Iranian missile sites or other land targets. It cannot even be proved that the mines were laid by Iran. Although some members of the Reagan administration and substantial sections of the American public might be in favour of such action it would receive no international support and it would undoubtedly allow the Soviet Union to reap the benefit by adopting a position of moral superiority.

Iraq is faced with a visible dilemma. Iraqi spokesmen, such as the ambassador to London, Dr. Al-Anbari, argue vigorously that the West is now taking a wholly false perspective. While it is true that Iraq has been responsible for more attacks on shipping than Iran in the past, this has to be seen against the background of the war. The obvious response is that Iraq started the war and therefore cannot complain of an Iranian blockade. But here there are two points to be made. One is that while most of the world accuses Iraq of starting the war the Iraqis themselves vigorously dispute it. They have produced a large dossier in their support and expressed their willingness to accept the verdict of an impartial enquiry. The other very obvious point is that if Iraq started the war it is Iran that has insisted on continuing it for the past five years.

The attitude of the U.S. is cause for concern because although it sponsored the Resolution it does not seem to accept the implications of a truly international effort to end the war. There have always been suspicions that Washington's prime aim was to recover lost prestige and the confidence of its friends after its reverses in Lebanon and the shame of Iran. But another clear objective is to "keep out the Russians." Some have even suggested that the real U.S. goal is to force the reluctant GCC states to provide it with land bases although it is doubtful Washington's thinking has this degree of coherence.

There are some encouraging signs of a fall in the U.S. temperature. Hoping that the Iraqis would provide the necessary provocation to "teach the Ayatollah a lesson" never made sense because it would certainly do no such thing. But the latest move to supplement 598 with an arms embargo, while admirable in its aims, makes complete nonsense if it is combined with a policy of snubbing the Soviet Union — Middle East International, London.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Rai: Unified hopes and aspirations

THE Jordanian family today celebrates one of the dearest occasions; that of the anniversary of His Majesty the King's coronation. The Jordanian family has been living with its leader for the past 35 years which were characterised by devotion, struggle and loyalty. King Hussein embarked on the long march towards achieving prosperity for his country as soon as he was crowned king 35 years ago. His leadership has been characterised with determination, total commitment and heroic struggle to bring about a better life for Jordanians. By celebrating this occasion, the Jordanian family remembers the achievements realised under King Hussein over the past years. This country has been able to fulfil many of its aspirations under the wise leadership of King Hussein whose struggles on the domestic, pan-Arab and international levels are indeed exemplary. This occasion comes as the Jordanian family is celebrating the wedding of King Hussein's second son Prince Faisal. The two occasions remind us that the King is keen on bringing joy to his small and large family together, thus further cementing ties between them and unifying their hopes and aspirations for a better future.

Al Dustour: Occasion for rejoicing

JORDANIANS are rejoicing today over the 35th occasion of King Hussein's coronation, one that reminds us of the King's inheritance of the standards of the Great Arab Revolt and its principles and its objectives. As the Jordanians celebrate this occasion, they review the major achievements of the Kingdom under King Hussein's leadership and they take pride in the successful march and the prosperity achieved under his reign. Thanks to King Hussein's wise leadership and relentless efforts on all fronts, the Kingdom has been standing as an oasis of security and stability amidst a troubled region and serving as a workshop of construction and development and as a bridge of understanding among Arab states. The King's endeavours at the leadership of his people has resulted in bringing up Jordan into a respectable position, assuming a unique place within the Arab World. Jordan would not have enjoyed its present prosperity had it not been protected by its armed forces which serve as a shield defending the nation.

Sawt Al Shaab: Long strides towards progress

EVER since he was crowned, King Hussein has been sparing no effort in his continued service for his nation. Ever since he assumed his powers at the helm of the Kingdom, King Hussein has been known to be brave, resolute and patient and seeking the achievement of justice. King Hussein assumed responsibility of his country at a very early age and has been working day and night, supported by the allegiance of his people and their affection and diligence behind his leadership. Under King Hussein's reign, the Kingdom has achieved many economic and social advances, exemplary in the Arab World despite the numerous challenges and the meagre resources of the country. On the domestic front, industry, agriculture, education and construction and health have been promoted and developed, and on the pan-Arab level, Jordan under King Hussein has been held in esteem. King Hussein came to the help of Arab countries in the 1956, 1967 and 1973 wars against Israel and continues to support Iraq in its war with Iran.



Mounting cost of living in Turkey is a major challenge to Ozal

By Paul Bolding
Reuter

ANKARA — Driving through mud hut villages in central Anatolia, it is hard not to smile as the radio reports a claim by Prime Minister Turgut Ozal that Turkey has joined the ranks of the developed European nations.

Poverty, by Western standards, is rife and the cost of living is the major political issue working against Ozal as he looks to general elections 15 months away at most.

But such blustering statements are the trademark of the jovial 59-year-old premier, who can rightly claim to have presided over a far-reaching modernisation of the economy and to have made Turkey a moderately important trading force.

He has also brought electricity to the villages but homes have few implements with which to use it and no mains water nor sewerage. Conditions are similar in the shanty suburbs of large towns.

Per capita annual national income has not risen from around \$1,100 since Ozal came to power and a Turkey/World Food Programme agreement published last



Turgut Ozal

month put per capita income at \$320 in the five central and eastern provinces chosen for a project.

Across the country, peasants are currently threshing and winnowing wheat by methods unchanged in centuries to support a near-subsistence existence.

Ozal's comment as reported by the state radio came as he toured the country to expound his government's record ahead of a referendum on Sept. 6 on whether

to allow banned figures like ex-premiers Suleyman Demirel and Bulent Ecevit back into politics.

The message is that he has done far better than they did and without the turmoil and violence that wracked Turkey when they were in office in the late 1970s.

In the last three years, however, the income gap has visibly widened while complaints from Turks about the cost of living have become ever stronger.

High public spending and the failure to impose monetary controls have left inflation, at 37.7 per cent, slightly higher now than the day Ozal took office in December 1983.

A janitor making about double the minimum wage of \$85 a month said he found it tough to find the money for new clothes for his children.

"Life is very expensive. It is hard to get by," he said.

Promises of aid and industry for the impoverished south-east appear to have come to nothing while prestigious infrastructure projects like motorways and bridges have pushed up the national debt without directly benefiting the least privileged.

The rural dwellers who make

up half the population may not have got poorer but the middle class in towns find life tougher and the rich have become the very rich.

The number of expensive cars jamming the streets of Istanbul has exploded and costly satellite television systems have sprouted. Stores selling luxury clothes at Bond Street or Fifth Avenue prices do good business.

Ozal is acknowledged to be the most devout premier Turkey has had at a time when awareness of Islam is on the rise, but at the same time he is an economic technician of the Western mould. He is also a politician with great tactical skill, charisma and ability as a speaker.

Despite a triple bypass heart operation last February he is indefatigable in travelling the country to propound the achievements of his administration and trumpet Turkey's standing in the world.

Whether or not all this can get him re-elected, in spite of concern about the cost of living and in the face of a divided opposition, may well depend on whether the people vote to allow former leaders back into the political arena.

North collaborator awaits sentencing in Iran-contra affair

By George Gedda
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — When Philippines President Corason Aquino arrived for a state visit last September, she was accompanied by Richard Miller, then a rising star in this city's image-building business.

It was an ego-nourishing experience for Miller, a political conservative who in a short period had built from scratch a lucrative firm that specialised in promoting the Nicaraguan contra rebels.

But 11 months after jetting across the Pacific with Mrs. Aquino as her public relations aide, Miller finds himself under a mountain of debt, his company struggling for survival.

Most demoralising of all is the possibility that he may have to spend the next few years in jail for his work with former White House aide Oliver North on behalf of the contra.

Breaking a months-long silence, Miller, 34, described to the Associated Press what life has been like as one of the two men who have pleaded guilty in Iran-contra affair investigations.

"I've got to believe I know what an innocent man being executed feels like," he told two reporters at his second floor office at International Business Communications (IBC), where he often worked until after midnight on contra projects.

"I viewed our work as work on behalf of our government, and therefore did not give the attention to legal details I should have," he said. "You have to do your duty, and that's what I thought I was doing."

On May 6, Miller pleaded guilty to the fraud charges, admitting that he and conservative fundraiser Carl "Spitz" Channell illegally used a tax-exempt foundation to raise more than \$3 million to arm the contra.

According to a criminal information filed by special prosecutor Lawrence Walsh, the government was defrauded of taxes on money from donors who were told they could deduct the contributions on their income tax returns. Both Miller and Channell said they worked with North to help arm the contra.

Self-pity is not a part of his makeup and, once his legal troubles are over, he wants to rebuild his firm, which is down to four people from a high of 14. His father, a one-time naval officer, told him never to give up, no matter what.

Maintaining a business-as-usual posture has been hard for

Miller as he contemplates being hauled off to prison, possibly for five years, deprived of the company of his wife and 15-month old daughter.

"I have mentally prepared myself for it," he said. "My wife has, too. I don't think there is anything more painful than the notion that I would walk away from my daughter at a year and a half and come back when she is five or six."

Money is another headache. Legal bills arising from a variety of federal investigations have produced lawyers' fees that will total perhaps \$470,000, of which he has paid between \$150,000 and \$175,000, he said. His sentence also could carry a fine of up to \$250,000.

The firm is or has been investigated by Walsh, the Internal Revenue service, the congressional Iran-contra committees and the State Department.

Miller said he and North received \$3.44 million for the contra from Channell's fund-raising activities. But he declined to elaborate on how they handled the funds, citing his cooperation in Walsh's Iran-contra criminal investigation.

He said he not communicated with North since February and was told by Walsh's staff not to watch the public congressional hearings where North testified. North told the congressional committees that he instructed Miller to set up an account in the Cayman Islands where money from Channell's contributors could be funnelled to the rebel cause.

The contra have said they received \$1.2 million directly from the Channell network, and it is still unclear what happened to all the \$11 million that Channell raised on behalf of the rebels in 1985-86.

Miller said he handled about \$5 million that was raised by Channell, including the \$3.4 million he handled with North, and close to \$2 million that IBC spent on Channell's public relations and political projects. Miller denied reports that North directed those efforts.

If there is a silver lining to Miller's cloud, it is that he can go home earlier nowadays because the IBC doesn't have the clientele it used to.

"We still have a few (clients) and we refuse under pain of death to divulge their names for fear that people will go harass them," he said. "My dad would saw on a log all day if he knew he had to get through it. And I do not give up. I just refuse to give up no matter what the circumstances."

Haiti unrest shows long haul to overcome legacy of dictators

By Alister Doyle
Reuter

PORT-AU-PRINCE — Recent unrest is showing Haitians they may have to wait decades before overcoming a legacy of poverty, corruption and ignorance left by a string of dictators, officials and diplomats say.

Elections are planned for this autumn and a civilian president is due to take over from the interim military-led government in 1988. By many think chronic underdevelopment will have to be tackled before democracy is viable.

Even government officials say it could take a generation to bring fair government to Haiti, rather than the two years set for the task when the last dictator, Jean-Claude Duvalier, fled in February 1986.

"We have a long way to go ... it'll probably take 25 years to have a stable democracy in Haiti," Information Ministry Press Secretary Pierre-Robert Auguste told Reuters. "But we must start right now to lay the basis of a democratic system."

The elation at Duvalier's fall gave way to growing discontent with the interim government led by General Henri Namphy, which gave rise to the recent weeks of unrest.

Many Haitians, though still demonstrating in favour of greater democracy, have concluded that some form of authoritarian rule or military control is all but inevitable in coming years, diplomats say.

During bloody unrest over the past six weeks, troops have killed 37 civilians and wounded hundreds more. The army has been widely accused of killing at random to instill fear, a technique used by the Duvalier dynasty.

Both society and the economy seem on the brink of collapse after almost two centuries under dictators who propped themselves up through repression and corruption.

Most Haitians are jobless, fewer than 20 per cent can read, and the average Haitian expects to live just 54 years. Most are deeply superstitious and belief in voodoo cults magic potions and werewolves have a wide fol-



General Henri Namphy

lowing. Illnesses wiped out in most of the Third World are rife here, while Haitians have one of the highest incidences of the killer acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS). Doctors estimate that one in six Haitians may be carriers of the virus by 1991.

The economy, already the poorest in the Western Hemisphere, is stagnant. The Caribbean state has few natural resources, the treasury has been pillaged by corruption, and large tracts of land may become desert as millions of trees were cut down for firewood.

Haiti has not had fair government since it became the world's first black republic in 1804, and dictators have deliberately held back development as a tool for subjugating the people, diplomats said.

Popular discontent has erupted in recent weeks as Haitians realise that jubilant expectations of quick improvement in Haiti after Duvalier are unrealistic.

With a new-found freedom of expression, they have taken to the streets to vent pent-up anger in crippling nationwide strikes and protests to force the interim government to resign.

Protesters say the government violates the constitution and that it is in league with the Tonton Macoutes, the disbanded militia which terrorised opponents of the

Duvalier dynasty.

The protests have taken on an increasing anti-American tinge, with many opposition leaders saying the government could not survive without Washington's support.

The Reagan administration is due to give Haiti \$100 million in aid this year, contingent on respect for human rights and democratic principles.

"The United States used to say it supported Duvalier as an alternative to anarchy. Now it's doing the same thing all over again backing this government," Yves Comeau, one of the organisers of recent strikes, told Reuters.

Recent protests have led the government to back down from plans to take partial control of the coming polls, which the opposition charged would give it a blank check for electoral fraud, but no one seems to benefit from the recent unrest.

While the unrest continues, Haitians are going hungry, businesses are in trouble, foreign investors drawn by rock-bottom wages of three dollars a day are looking to put their money elsewhere, and tourists are being scared away.

"The country is losing what it gained in February 1986 when Duvalier left," Auguste said.

Kenneth Wootton, manager of a factory outside the capital making textiles for U.S. export, said, "we'll go out of business if things don't get better in the next two months."

In 1986 alone, the U.S. embassy here said Haiti lost an estimated 12,000 jobs from the export sector, and diplomats say the country is likely to lose many again this year.

Auguste of the Information Ministry said Haitians will need many years to learn how to organise political parties, how to use a free press, and to settle disputes without violence.

He said the armed forces, widely criticised for the recent civilian deaths, would also have to be educated.

"The forces of order are not too professional. They are excited, nervous and take little provocation to react violently."

Sikh leaders' retreat throws open Punjab scene to militants' power

By Rajendra Bajpai
Reuter

NEW DELHI — Sikh militants fighting for an independent homeland in Punjab now have a chance to prove that political power flows from the barrel of a gun.

Apparently afraid of the militants, top Sikh spiritual and political leaders have announced their temporary withdrawal from Punjab politics.

Their decision leaves the field open to the gun-wielding hardline separatists terrorising the north Indian Sikh-majority state of 16 million inhabitants.

Political analysts say it also leaves Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's central government in Delhi, which dismissed the state government last May, face-to-face with the extremists.

Darshan Singh Ragi, acting head priest of the Akal Takht (Throne of the Immortals) temporarily withdrew at the weekend from Punjab politics after trying for months to unite the divided Sikh political establishment.

The Akal Takht, in the Golden Temple complex in the Sikh holy city Amritsar, is the highest seat of spiritual and temporal power in the Sikh faith and Ragi played a prominent part in Sikh politics.

The leaders of his unified Akali Dal Party (UAD), which he formed in February to unite Sikh politicians, also announced they were withdrawing from politics, leaving the militants to run Sikh affairs.

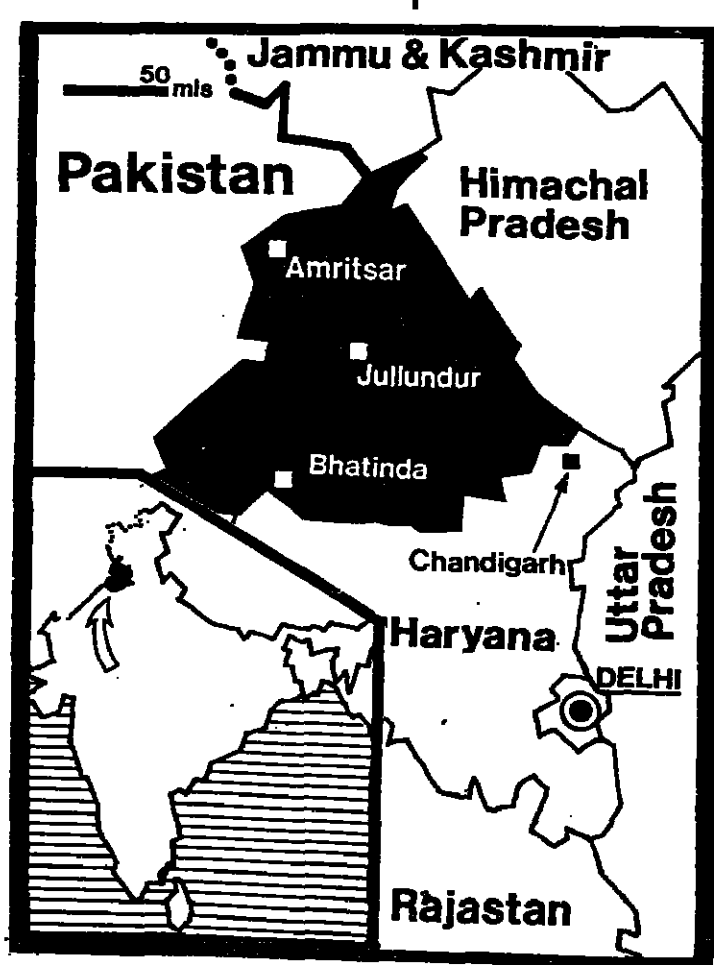
Ragi, once painted by Gandhi's government as an ally of the militants, told Reuters he was pulling out to let the militants "try out their philosophy."

However, Sikh MP Balwant Singh Ramoowalia said Ragi was afraid of the militants.

Ragi lost a showdown on August 4 with extremists controlling the Golden Temple.

At a meeting of Sikh leaders to decide the political goals of the community militants declared their aim was Khalistan (land of the pure) — an independent Sikh religious state.

Ragi said they overruled most of the 300 leaders present who



refused to negotiate with Ragi and the UAD which were seen as too close to the militants.

Gandhi's government refused to talk to the militants because of their demand for Khalistan.

The militants believe India's 16 million Sikhs have no future in a predominantly Hindu country of 750 million people. They are also angry at alleged cold-blooded killings of Sikh militants in "encounters" with police.

There is no sign that Gandhi's government will change its mind and negotiate with the militants who now control the Golden Temple and appear to control Sikh politics.

However, Punjab's moderate Tribune newspaper warned that a "bullet for bullet" approach had no chance of succeeding and Delhi should tackle Sikh militancy at

a different level. Questioning Gandhi's sudden rush to Colombo to sign a July 29 pact to end a bloody ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka, the newspaper said: "Peace, like charity, should begin at home."

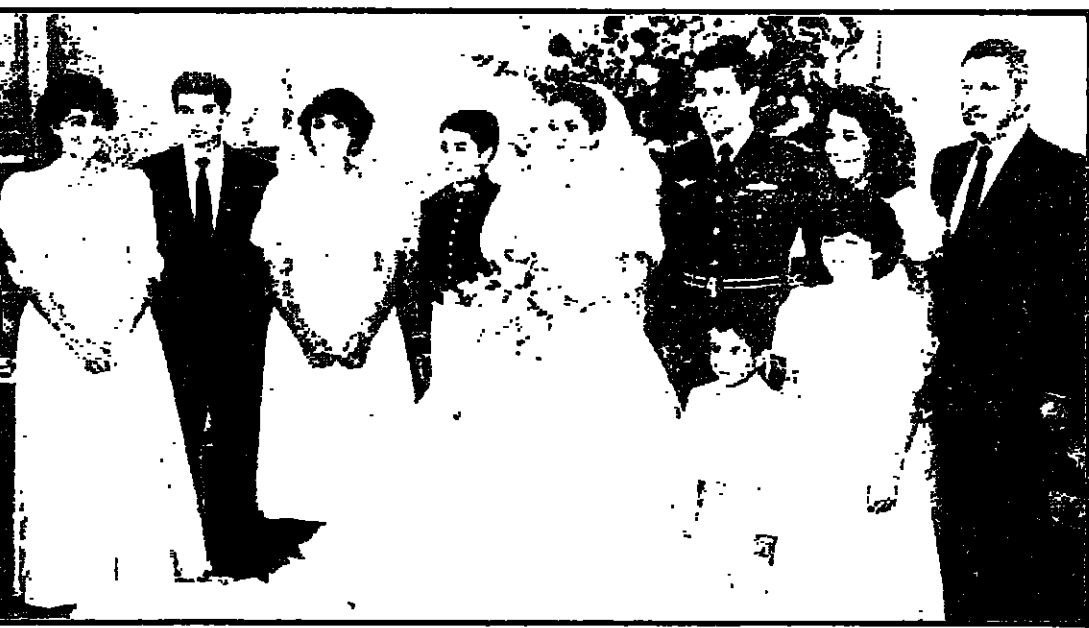
Political sources in Chandigarh, the state capital, said one rebel group warned that it would sign "death warrants" for anyone resisting the Khalistan call.

Ragi told Reuters he was almost certain the militants would fail to provide a solution to the conflict. "The ideology of the gun has no chance of succeeding," he said. Shastras (scriptures) are more powerful than shastra (weapons).

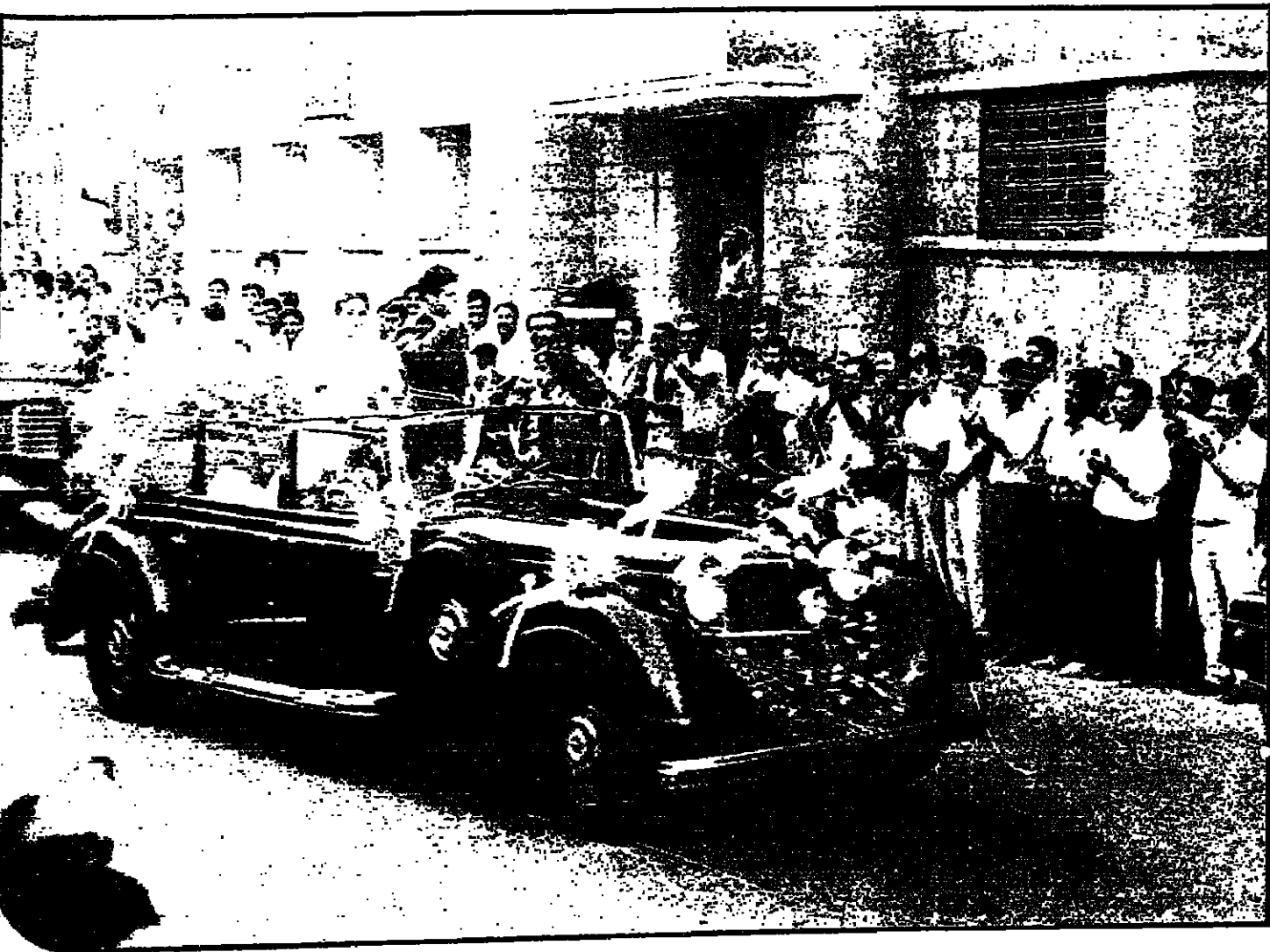
"Let the militants experiment with their ideology ... but they must realise that guns cannot win this battle," Ragi said.

Congratulations

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Royal Court was flooded Tuesday with cables of congratulations and good wishes to His Majesty King Hussein on the occasion of His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Ibn Al Hussein and Princess Alia wedding. The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said public figures, heads of tribes and leaders of trade union federations wished the royal couple a happy married life and further prosperity under the care of His Majesty the King. Prince Faisal, the second son of the King, and Princess Alia got married on Monday in a ceremony that were attended by prominent figures from Arab and foreign countries.



Petra photos



Nigeria secures hockey bronze; Zimbabwe, Kenya battle for gold

Hosts Kenya to take on experienced Egypt in All Africa Games soccer final

NAIROBI (R) — Kenya meet African champions Egypt in the All Africa Games soccer final on Wednesday which will pit the skill and experience of the well-drilled Egyptians against the raw enthusiasm of the Kenyans backed by their home crowd.

Both Egypt and Kenya, who are trained by foreign coaches, are still looking for their best performances in the tournament and can be thankful for several doses of good fortune on the way to the final in the Kasarani Stadium.

The Egyptians, whose image of slick professionalism took a severe beating in the eight-nation contest, will be seeking to prove they really are the undisputed soccer masters of the continent since they won the African Nations Cup last year.

In contrast, Kenya are still searching for their first major soccer title but will have to live up to the expectations of a fiercely partisan home crowd, whose volatile response to success or failure can be as much a curse as a blessing.

The Kenyans, coached by West German Reinhardt Fabisch, can take some comfort in the fact that All Africa Games hosts have always won the soccer tournament — Congo in 1965, Nigeria in 1973 and Algeria in 1978.

But Kenya's record against Egypt is poor. The Egyptians

won 7-1 on aggregate in an encounter last month which ousted the Kenyans from the 1988 Olympic Soccer Tournament.

Hockey

Nigeria upset Egypt 3-1 to snatch the bronze medal in the games hockey tournament on Tuesday as Kenya and Zimbabwe fought out a nail-biting finish to the battle for the gold.

Ritson Oddiri scored a hat-trick for Nigeria, putting his team one ahead in the first half and then scoring twice in the final minutes of the match to clinch the West Africans' victory.

Gamal Mohammad whacked home Egypt's lone goal half way through the second half in a sizzling fast and skillful match. But it was merely a foretaste of the battle for the gold and the right to represent Africa in next year's Seoul Olympics which will almost certainly be decided a one or two goals.

Both Kenya and Zimbabwe have nine points from five matches — they drew 0-0 when they met last Thursday — and both are

virtual certainties to win their last match — Zimbabwe against Tanzania and Kenya against bottom-of-the-table Zambia.

Zimbabwe has a three-goal edge going into Tuesday's matches but Kenya will have the double advantage of playing last against a side that has conceded 47 goals in five matches — 18 of them against Zimbabwe.

Boxing

Kenyan boxers have routed the opposition at the games, grabbing eight of the 12 gold medals and strengthening their grip on a sport they have dominated on the continent for a decade.

The rout was not due to any falling off in standards in other African countries, according to the chairman of the Kenyan Amateur Boxing Association (KABA) Major Marsden Madoka.

"All the teams were fairly well trained. It just shows maybe the Kenyan standards are above the others," he told Reuters on Tuesday.

The Kenyan haul of gold medals was a record for the games. Kenyan boxers also took two bronze medals and their performance compares favourably with that of the United States who won nine golds at the 1984 Olymp-

pic Games in Los Angeles. Kenyan boxers are now likely to dominate an African team to be chosen this week for the World Cup tournament in Belgrade in October.

Kenyan featherweight John Waajau, an experienced international campaigner, made short work of Madagascar's southpaw Rapotomanga Heritovo. He dropped him in the second round and the referee stopped the fight.

There were only two tight decisions for the Kenyans. Local banuweight hero Stephen Mwema won a split decision over Zimbabwe's Dube Ndaba and the judges were also divided in giving victory over Zairean Kadima (one name only) to super heavyweight Chris Odera whose bulk hides dazzlingly fast hands and feet.

Light flyweight Maurice Maina, lightweight Patrick Waweru, light welterweight David Kamau, welterweight Robert Napunyi and light middleweight Mohammad Orungi all won easily.

The golds which escaped Kenya went to Ethiopian flyweight Bezabeh Gemechu, middleweight Patrick Lihanda and heavyweight Fred Kaddu from Uganda and Zairean light heavyweight Kanika (only one name).

McEnroe, Lendl encounter indefinitely postponed

STRATTON MOUNTAIN, VT. (R) — Heavy rains have forced the indefinite postponement of the championship match between John McEnroe and Ivan Lendl at the \$315,000 men's Grand Prix tennis tournament at Stratton Mountain.

The match, postponed due to rain on Sunday, was to be the first between former world-number-one McEnroe and the current best in nearly two years.

It had been re-scheduled for Monday morning (1400 GMT) but never got under way as tournament organisers rolled back the starting time, hour by hour, because of the continuing rain.

Officials finally suspended the match indefinitely at about 4:30 p.m. (2030 GMT).

McEnroe, playing deliberate tennis, had won the first set 7-6 but Lendl began to play more aggressively in the second and was leading 4-1 when play was halted for the third and final time.

Tournament director Jim Westhall said organisers hoped to eventually stage finals in both the singles and doubles, which was to have followed, depending on player availability and other considerations.

"We've been down this road before," he said, recalling a 57-day break for a 1982 final when Lendl finally defeated Spain's Jose Higueras for his first U.S. Grand Prix title.

"We have a lot of scheduling to look at when we plan to hold the finals... somewhere, some time," he said.

McEnroe and Lendl were headed to Montreal for the Canadian Open, which began on Monday, as Westhall spoke to reporters.

Lendl was also involved in the last Grand Prix final to be suspended, at Rotterdam in 1984, when a bomb scare forced evacuation of the arena where he was playing Jimmy Connors.

N.Korea tones down Olympic demands

TOKYO (R) — North Korea has lessened its demands for participation in the 1988 Summer Olympics.

Chin Chung Guk, vice-chairman of the North Korean Olympic Committee, announced that Pyongyang would propose to Seoul that North Korea hold five full Olympic events and one partial event, the official (North) Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) reported Tuesday.

Up to now, North Korea had demanded eight full events out of the 23 Olympic sports, including such star attractions as gymnastics, boxing and wrestling.

Under the new proposal, North Korea is asking for table tennis, archery, women's volleyball, soccer and one unspecified sport, along with one partial event to be shared with South Korea, KCNA reported.

South Korea agreed last year to let Pyongyang stage the full programme of table tennis and archery, and parts of cycling and soccer.

Chin was quoted as saying North Korea wanted to discuss the proposal with South Korea before the next Olympic talks between the two sides, scheduled for September 17.

"If the South Korean side opposes even this new flexible proposal of ours, this will make clear before the people of the world that the South Korean side tries to use the Olympic Games for its insidious political aim," Chin said.

U.S. excels in track, swimming, basketball at Pan Am Games; Cuba dominates weightlifting

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Greg Louganis hasn't forgotten what it's like to be well prepared for a final exam. He had the same kind of feeling heading into the 3-metre springboard championships at the Pan American Games and passed the test with style.

The 27-year-old American won easily, amassing 754.14 points, just short of the record he set in 1983. U.S. teammate Doug Shaffer finished second with 684.39 and Jose Rocha of Mexico was third.

"I was just pleased with my performance, period," Louganis, of Boca Raton, Florida, said. "You can go back and analyse it and say it could have been a half-a-point here or half-a-point there (to break the world mark), but I don't generally look back. I look ahead."

What Louganis has to look forward to now is this weekend's platform competition. He won both the 3-metre and platform dives at the 1979 and 1983 Pan Am Games and will try for a six-medal sweep on Sunday.

Louganis' performance highlighted a day in which the Americans continued to excel in track and field, swimming and basketball, while Cuba extended its domination of weightlifting and won another baseball game in pursuit of its fifth straight Pan Am title.

Weightlifting

Cuba continued its domination of weightlifting as featherweights Gabriel Encarnat and Julio Loscos each won three gold medals, sharing first-place in the 60-kilogram class because they lifted the same totals and had identical body weights before the competition began.

Raul Mora also won three gold medals in the lightweight class-

ification to hike Cuba's medal harvest in weightlifting to 16 gold, one silver and one bronze.

Track and field

The U.S. won five gold medals in track and field, with Lee McRae of the University of Pittsburgh taking the men's 100-metre dash in the absence of injured American champion Mark Witherspoon; Gail Devers of UCLA winning the women's 100; and Mike Conley of Fayetteville, Arkansas, capturing the triple jump over world record holder Willie Banks.

Jud Logan won the hammer throw with a Pan Am-record heave of 253 feet, 5 inches (77 metre 11 cm), and Cindy Greiner of Eugene, Oregon, set a meet record of 6,184 points in the heptathlon.

Swimming

Sixteen-year-old Silvia Poll of Costa Rica and John Witche of the United States became the first double-winners in swimming. Americans Jerry Frentos and Dorsey Tieney also won gold medals.

Poll, who won the women's 100-freestyle to give her country its first-ever Pan Am gold medal on Sunday, took the 200-freestyle Monday in a personal best 2:00.02.

Witchel, of New York, won his first gold medal Sunday in the 200-freestyle. He got his second on Monday, anchoring the Americans' winning 800-freestyle relay team.

Frentos, of Cincinnati, Ohio, won the men's 400-individual medley, beating U.S. teammate Jeff Prior of Philadelphia. Tierney, of Louisville, Kentucky, won the women's 200-breaststroke.

At day's end, the U.S. had extended its lead in total medals

to 72-38 over Cuba, including 34 gold to Cuba's 20. Canada was third with 31 medals; three of them gold.

Basketball

Danny Manning, Rex Chapman and Willie Anderson each scored 11 points as the U.S. pounded Argentina 85-58 to extend its winning streak to 31 games in Pan Am competition. David Robinson added 10 points for the Americans, who broke the game open with a 12-2 spurt early in the second half.

Argentina defeated the U.S. 74-70 in the 1986 World Championships but played without four players from that team because of a monetary dispute.

Brazil crushed Uruguay 110-79, Panama edged Mexico 86-80 and Canada defeated the U.S. Virgin Islands 92-78 in other men's games.

Baseball

Cuba, which has won the last four Pan Am baseball titles, improved its record to 2-0 with a 1-0 shutout of Puerto Rico. Left-hander Pablo Abreu, pitched a one-hitter and Antonio Pacheco hit a first-inning home run.

Nicaragua beat the Netherlands Antilles 5-0 and Canada defeated Venezuela 8-4 in other games.

Rhythmic gymnastics

The first gold medal in rhythmic gymnastics, a sport featuring athletes dancing and tumbling while handling small hand equipment, went to Lourdes Medina of Cuba. Medina scored 9.60 on ribbon, her final apparatus, to defeat Diane Simpson of Evanston, Illinois.

Mary Fuzesi of Canada won the bronze medal.

Zapata, Bassa ready for WBA flyweight bout

PANAMA CITY, Panama (AP) — Hilario Zapata of Panama, hoping to regain the World Boxing Association's (WBA) flyweight crown from Fidel Bassa of Colombia, has said he's not in it just for the money.

"I want to win the title not only for the money but for my own pride," said Zapata, who lost the crown to Bassa last Feb. 13 in

Barranquilla, Colombia. "Without the help from the public, Bassa isn't anyone going against Zapata," the hometown favourite said of the bout scheduled Saturday at the New Panama Gymnasium.

Willie Chams, Bassa's manager, at a news conference where the boxers were introduced to journalists, said: "The attitude of

Panamanian fans doesn't worry me at the time of the fight, because I know that in Panama they know boxing."

"If there had been any fear we wouldn't have accepted the commitment," Chams added.

Zapata, 28, and the number 1 flyweight contender, has won 35 of his 41 fights, 12 by knockout.

Lockridge seeks \$1m bout with McGuigan

LONDON (AP) — Rocky Lockridge, the new International Boxing Federation (IBF) super-featherweight champion, has urged Irishman Barry McGuigan to keep his diary clear for a \$1 million fight later this year.

But McGuigan hinted in British press reports that he may never box again, saying he was still stunned by the death of his father.

Lockridge, 28, from Mt Laurel, N.J., Sunday night stopped Australia's Barry Michael in eight rounds at a nightclub in Windsor, west of London, to win a version of the 130-pound title for the second time.

He was World Boxing Association (WBA) junior-lightweight titleholder from February, 1984, until May, 1985.

Michael, 32, making his fourth defence of the title he won in July, 1985, announced his retirement soon after failing to answer the bell for the start of the ninth of the scheduled 15 rounds.

Lockridge went to 41-5-0, while Michael, who kept his record of never having been knocked off his feet in 14 years as a professional, finished at 48-9-3.

McGuigan, 26, has not fought since the Texan Steve Cruz outpointed him over 15 rounds to take away his WBA featherweight (126 lbs) crown in Las Vegas 14 months ago.

The Irishman was a ringside commentator for NBC at Sunday night's fight and reportedly later told Lockridge he would like to move up one weight and challenge the American.

"I told him I was very keen for the fight too," Lockridge said at a news conference before leaving

Britain. "I've had 46 professional fights and want to meet someone, like McGuigan, who is marketable. I think I'm worth a million dollar pay day and that's what I'm striving for."

Frank Warren, McGuigan's manager, said he wants to negotiate with the fighter's former handler, Barney Eastwood, who has the option on McGuigan's first two comeback fights.

"Maybe we can work something out by buying out his option," Warren said.

But British press reports quoted McGuigan as saying he may never be seen again in the ring and that, instead, he may turn to a singing career or switch sports and become a racing driver.

"I was devastated by the death of my father," McGuigan was quoted as saying. "He was my inspiration and I don't know if I could do it all again without him. It's too early to talk about a

comeback. I'll decide when I'm not so upset."

"I'll make a decision by the end of the year but I have already mapped out a new career. Next week I am launching a pop record. I think I could make it in the entertainment business. And I'll be driving professionally in a saloon car racing next year. That's settled."

Lockridge said he hoped McGuigan would stick to boxing. "I hope he abandons plans that I read about for a music career," the American said. "He's a fighter. It's in his blood. I was a singer and drummer in a band but opted for boxing when my career took off."

Lockridge's manager, Lou Duva, also called on McGuigan to relaunch his boxing career. "The only thing that will happen to McGuigan if he waits is that he will get older," Duva said. "He should decide now."



Mansell... short of holding another trophy

Brazilian gamblers cash in on Mansell's bad luck

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Racing driver Nigel Mansell's bad luck in Sunday's Hungarian Grand Prix proved a good omen for superstitious Brazilian gamblers.

Illegal numbers game racketeers in Rio de Janeiro were surprised by the unusually high proportion of bets placed for no apparent reason on what turned out to be Monday's winning 69. But after racking their brains

they came up with the explanation — in the local game all numbers have a corresponding animal and 69 represents a pig. A wheel run in Portuguese is "porca" — which also means a sow.

Mansell abandoned Sunday's race when a wheel nut flew off only six laps victory, leaving Brazilians Nelson Piquet and Ayrton Senna to take first and second places.

New Zealand sailing to victory

COWES, England (R) — New Zealand were heading for victory in the Admiral's Cup yachting series Tuesday when their three boats continued to make good progress in the Fastnet Race.

With 100 miles of the 605-mile race to go, Propaganda, which leads the Admiral's Cup individual points chart, had moved up from 10th to sixth, Kiwi remained ninth, and Goldcrop had advanced seven vital places to 20th.

Britain, needing to finish 25 total places better off than the New Zealanders to snatch victory in the series, suffered a potentially devastating blow when Gra-

ham Walker's Indulgence, a 34.56-foot racer, slipped from 11th place to 16th.

Another Briton, Olympic competitor Rodney Pattison in Jamarella, slipped one position to 10th although the team's third yacht Juno had moved up to 12th from 18th.

The 40-yacht Admiral's Cup fleet were being led on corrected time approaching Bishop's Rock by the Belgian One-Tonner CGI, which had surged through to the front from 14th rounding the Fastnet Rock on Monday.

That performance was some compensation for the Belgians who had been in last position.

New thoroughbreds with webbed feet entertain fans

SCHUYLERVILLE, New York (AP) — Brown and gray thoroughbreds, speckled with white, blue, purple and green, pace and preen before an afternoon race. A chorus of quacks fills the air as spectators line the race course.

The gate opens, an Elvis Presley song is played and five to 10 ducks jump in and paddle down a 110-foot (33.5-metre) stretch of water to the finish line — and duck feed.

"We think that there's place in American entertainment for duck racing," says 59-year-old James Kelleher, founder and president of the Duck Downs Racing Association. He says he's spent years turning the scheme into reality.

Besides the Beakness, races include the Billmont and the Triple Feathers of racing. Ducks like Wingo Star, Milk and Quackers, Winner Et Dinner, Art Ducko, Spend a Duck and Duck Wheel are owned by people from as far

away as Florida and Hawaii, says Kelleher, who owns gift shops at several horse racing tracks.

"We thought it (owning a duck) sounded like a lot of fun," said Inga Muller, who with her daughter, Karen Litterer, owns Gertrude, the winner of the \$1,000 Beakness.

Kelleher launched the Duck racing season this summer at a ski area in Caroga Lake, New York. The races moved in August to Saratoga Springs, the summer-time venue for thoroughbred horses, about 220 miles (350 kilometres) north of New York City.

Owners, who pay \$200 a season for the privilege of owning a racer, can win purses ranging from \$25 to \$5,000, but there is no cash betting.

"They're playing the racing game," Kelleher says. "They get quite competitive about who their Duck is racing."

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Performances 3, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100

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Performances 3, 10, 11, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100

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Performances 3, 10, 11, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following were the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets on Tuesday.

One Sterling	1.5665/75	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3286/91	Canadian dollar
	1.8953/60	West German marks
	2.1340/50	Dutch guilders
	1.5750/60	Swiss francs
	39.36/39	Belgian francs
	6.3175/3225	French francs
	1373/1374	Italian lira
	151.60/70	Japanese yen
	6.9025/50	Swedish crowns
	7.2600/75	Norwegian crowns
One ounce of gold	463.10/463.60	Danish crowns
		U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — The London stock market stood at the day's high in late trading as initial confusion over U.K. balance of payments data for June turned to relief that the data had not shown as big a current account deficit as most had predicted.

At 1403 GMT, the FTSE 100 index was 33.9 points higher at 2,276.1. Dealers stressed volume had been modest after a fairly active morning as analysts continued to mull over the figures.

A strong rise on Wall Street on Tuesday, after Monday's record close, coupled with much better than expected half-year figures from General Accident, were a strong impetus. General Accident was up 3p to 1.034 while market leader ICI rose 21p to 1.522.

Mike Knight, share analyst with James Capel, said: "Although the trade data came within expectations and there are fears that the deficit trend is established, the market was relieved that the figure was not too bad."

Knight raised the question troubling many in the markets as to why Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson sanctioned a rise in U.K. base lending rates last week.

Wood Mackenzie analyst Bob Semple said: "There are still a lot of significant U.K. indicators to come in the next 10 days."

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Early morning confusion, over which course of action is best will give way to an exceptional clarity of vision. If you choose correctly, great success can be achieved today.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Don't let the needling of a higher-up distract your morning routine. A valuable new contact should be encouraged.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Put aside new ideas for the time being and attend to work which has been left on the "back burner" for far too long.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) A close friend has some good ideas which can help you advance in the business world, if they're recognized.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Cooperation with co-workers will make a great impression on those higher-ups who can give you success.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) A change of attitude and a kind and thoughtful demeanor toward your mate will bring some truly fine results.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) An older family friend can be most helpful in any problematical affairs. If entertaining, invite only trustworthy friends.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Just down notes this morning concerning your wishes and ideas, as your memory may be less than perfect later today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Give special attention to your financial situation. You may find that advice from an expert is in order.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Recruit some good friends for a pleasurable outing. Give some attention to your appearance tonight.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Think less about pleasing yourself and more about helping those around you, especially your relatives.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) A short trip with a good friend would be very good for your attitude, and would also be a boon to business.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Some old friends who you haven't seen for some time would brighten up the mood around your home, so invite them.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be able to easily combine modern advances with the tried and true methods of the past, but may not think very clearly at a young age. Be patient with your child and he or she will be very happy with life and well prepared to start his or her own family.

Swedish, Swiss engineering giants combine operations

BADEN, Switzerland (AP) — BBC-Brown, Boveri and Co. A.G. of Switzerland and ASEA A.B. of Sweden, two leading engineering companies, announced Monday they will combine operations as of next Jan. 1.

Managements of both companies have approved the combination, in which each parent will retain 50 per cent ownership, a statement from the Swiss company's headquarters said. The agreement is subject to approval by stockholders of both companies, it said.

The new international industrial group, to be called ASEA Brown Boveri, will have projected annual sales of 24 billion Swiss francs (\$15.3 billion) and a combined workforce of some 160,000, the statement said.

The group will have a leading position in the power generation business, transportation and industrial automation.

The two companies complement each other in technology, product lines and worldwide market presence, the statement said.

Analysts predict oil prices to fall below OPEC target

TOKYO (R) — The cost of oil looks set to fall below prices set by OPEC as an oversupply of crude exerts more influence on the market than fears of political upheaval in the Middle East, oil traders said.

News that a U.S.-operated oil tanker hit a mine floating outside the Gulf on Monday and that a U.S. navy jet fired a missile at an Iranian target on Saturday failed to reverse a week-long slide in oil prices, they said.

"People are fairly acclimatised to Gulf incidents now, so this news was just shrugged off," said a Japanese refiner.

"Everyone in the world is bearish at the moment. They are all looking at too much oil and the mood is definitely downward," said a trader for a major European oil company.

The most traded Mideast crude, fell through \$17.50 a barrel on the spot market, where oil is traded that is not linked to long-term contracts. Traders said its official selling price of \$17.42.

Exxon agrees to buy Goodyear's Celeron unit for \$650 million

AKRON, Ohio (R) — Goodyear Tyre and Rubber Co. agreed Monday to sell its Celeron Corp. oil and gas unit to Exxon Corp. for \$650 million to reduce debt incurred in fighting off last year's takeover bid by Sir James Goldsmith.

Celeron's holdings in California and adjacent state and federal waters will boost Exxon's proved reserves by the equivalent of over 100 million barrels of oil. Houston-based Exxon is the world's biggest oil company.

Goodyear, the world's largest tyre maker, said in early November that it would sell Celeron to help finance its defensive restructuring after the Anglo-French financier built up an 11.5 per cent stake in the Akron-based firm. He later made a \$4.7 billion bid for the company.

Sudan makes token payment to IMF

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sudan may be on its way back to more normal relations with the world financial community after making a token payment of \$5 million on the \$153 million it owes the International Monetary Fund (IMF), an international source said Monday.

The East African country owes about \$12 billion abroad. Interest payments amount to \$800 million a year, about half the cost of the 4-year-old civil war that has wracked the country.

About 30,000 rebels occupy much of southern Sudan, a country about one-third the size of the United States.

The World Bank estimates average income in Sudan at \$330 a year. Foreign sources say inflation is over 100 per cent. The population of more than 21 million includes about a million foreign refugees, according to the United Nations.

On Friday, Sudan presented its economic plans to a closed-door meeting of the executive directors who represent the 151 countries in the fund.

Their support is necessary if it is to get loans from individual governments that will enable it to pay enough on its arrears to the fund and to its sister organisation, the World Bank, so that they will lift their suspension of help.

That process could take several months, the sources said.

Wall Street stocks surge above 2,600

NEW YORK (R) — Wall Street stocks staged a strong rally Monday, closing for the first time above 2,600 and passing yet another 100-point milestone for the eighth time this year.

The Dow Jones industrial average soared 43.84 points to a record 2,635.84, the eighth-biggest single session gain in the market's history.

The broad-based rally, led by the surging technology stocks, gathered momentum in the afternoon as investors snatched up stock groups, such as banks, which had missed out on previous rallies.

"Everyone just jumped on the bandwagon," said analyst Hildegard Zagorski of Prudential-Bache Securities.

On the broader market, advancing shares outnumbered declines 1,151 to 459. Trading volume fell to 187,200,000 shares compared with 212,660,000 shares Friday.

Since the beginning of the year, the Dow Jones has gained more than 740 points. Its previous record high, set last Thursday, was 2,594.23.

The technology group has provided much of the strength in the recent rallies. Among the leaders, IBM was up 2-3/4 at 166-3/4, Digital Equipment Corp rose 4-1/2 to 175 and Unisys was up 7/8 to 45-3/4.

Many of the big gainers, however, came from groups that have been lagging in earlier rallies.

Tokyo expects 25 per cent reduction in trade surplus

TOKYO (R) — The Japanese government has estimated the country will cut its trade surplus by about 25 per cent in the current fiscal year, a senior trade official said Tuesday.

"Japan's efforts to transform its export-oriented economy to one more dependent on domestic demand are finally paying off," said the official of the ministry of international trade and industry, who asked not to be named.

Japan has been under pressure from overseas to reduce its trade surplus by expanding domestic demand and absorbing more imports. The trade surplus in fiscal 1986 was \$101 billion. The 1987 fiscal year ends in March, 1988.

A recent rise in crude-oil prices and increasing imports of manufactured goods would push up Japan's total imports in the current year by at least \$25 billion, the official told Reuters.

Exports are expected to remain at about the same level as in fiscal 1986 due to the yen's rise against the dollar since late 1985, he said.

The yen's more than 40 per cent rise against the dollar in the past two years has made Japanese products less competitive in international markets.

A rise in crude-oil import prices to \$18.20 a barrel in July from an average \$13.80 in fiscal 1986 is expected to increase total oil imports by about \$10 billion this year, the official said.

Imports of manufactured goods would increase by about \$10 billion, assuming they followed the trend of the April-June quarter when they showed a 30 per cent year-on-year rise, he said.

The \$40 billion emergency economic package that Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone announced at the Venice economic summit meeting of seven industrial democracies in June would help boost imports, he said.

The ministry expects Japan to become more dependent on domestic demand in the future and thus sees a further increase in imports of manufactured goods, the official added.

Drop in trade surplus may not help U.S.

Meanwhile, Japan showed further proof Monday that its huge trade surplus was diminishing, but economists were sceptical that this would be of any benefit to the United States.

Japan's major trade critic, Japan reported that the surplus in trade that cleared customs in July was \$6.99 billion, compared with \$8.19 billion a year earlier.

Exports were up about five per cent to a record \$20 billion, but imports surged 21 per cent to \$13 billion, the third highest level on the books.

Although economists agree that Japan's surplus appears to be shrinking, they cautioned that any change would be gradual this year and that the over billion-dollar drop for July was out of line.

Reagan names Verity to replace Baldrige as commerce secretary

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ronald Reagan said Monday he would nominate Mr. C. William Verity Jr., a retired steel company executive, to replace the late Malcolm Baldrige as U.S. commerce secretary.

President Reagan said Mr. Verity "shares my commitment to free and fair trade" and urged his prompt confirmation by the Senate when Congress returns from its August recess.

Mr. Baldrige, 64, who played a leading role in forging the Reagan administration's trade policy, died July 25 in a horse riding accident while practicing for a rodeo exhibition at a ranch in northern California.

Mr. Verity, 70, of Middletown, Ohio, retired in 1982 as chairman of Armco Inc. He declined to answer specific questions about his views, although he praised Baldrige for leading the way in helping to modernise U.S. industry.

"I'm happy to have this opportunity at a historic time in international trade," Mr. Verity said.

In 1981, Mr. Verity drew praise from President Reagan as chairman of the 44-member president's task force on private sector initiatives, a panel designed to

promote voluntary action to offset cutbacks in social programmes.

Like Baldrige, Mr. Verity has a strong business background, credentials Reagan administration officials said were important for a post widely viewed as the business community's major voice within the government.

Mr. Verity served in 1984 as co-chairman of the U.S.-USSR Trade and Economic Council, a private organisation of U.S. and Soviet executives that advocates expanded trade between the United States and the Soviet Union. He also served as chairman of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce from 1980 to 1981.

However, Mr. Verity's contention that U.S. businesses had lost millions of dollars in potential sales to the Soviets because of U.S. restrictions could give him some trouble with conservatives in Congress.

In a May 1984 interview with the New York Times, Mr. Verity said the Soviets were able to buy technology elsewhere and only U.S. manufacturers were being hurt by a host of restrictions on trade with the Soviet Bloc.

As president and chairman of

They further warned that Japan's neighbours benefited more from the change in the trade balance than America and that friction could continue with Japan's largest trading partner.

Even though the dollar is more than 40 per cent weaker against the yen than it was two years ago, the United States is slower to respond to meet new demand here than Japan's Asian neighbours, said Mr. Takashi Kiuchi, senior economist for the Long-Term Credit Bank of Japan.

The United States also has trouble in vying with South East Asian countries in supplying Japan with basic manufactured goods such as clothing, food and furniture, he said.

The major market in Japan for the United States is high-technology goods, which fill a demand little related to currency adjustments, and agriculture products, which have fairly stable import volumes, said Mr. Toshiaki Kakimoto, Sumitomo Bank's chief economist.

July's trade figures showed a 41 per cent rise in imports from South East Asia, but a five per cent decline in Japanese purchases of American goods.

Japan's trade balance with the United States was \$4.79 billion in July, up from \$4.51 billion a year earlier, as Japanese shipments gained about two per cent.

Despite the heavy flow of imports from South East Asia, Japan's trade surplus in July with that region was little changed at \$1.50 billion against \$1.51 billion in June as exports also climbed, up 23 per cent.

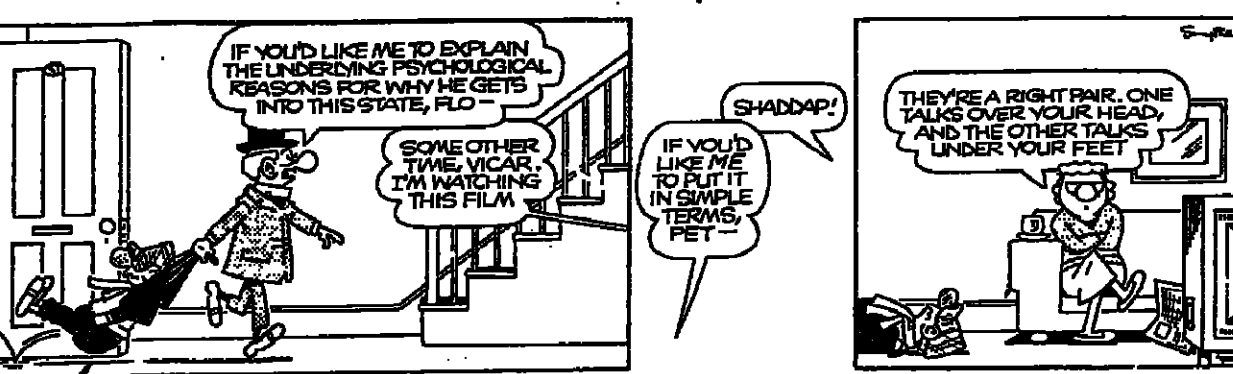
Peanuts



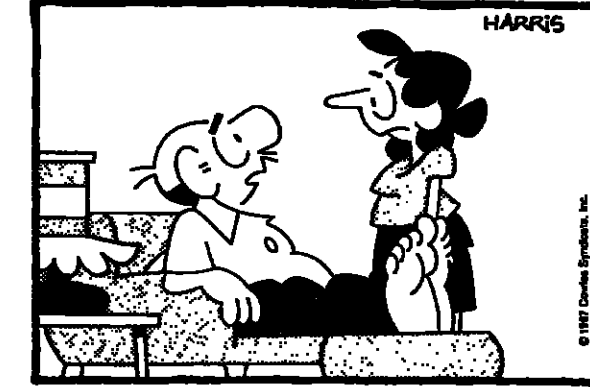
Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



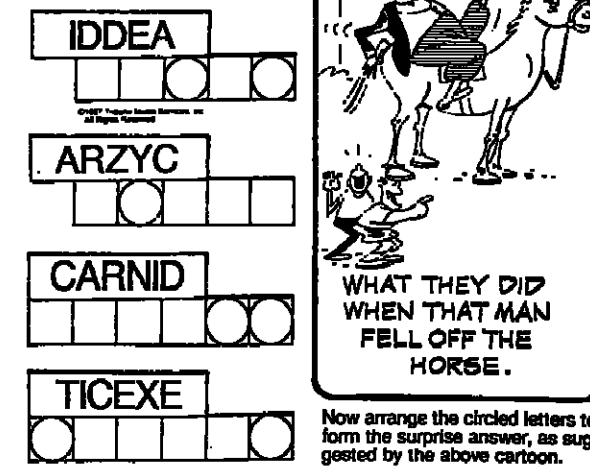
THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



"Honey, the cake keeps calling me from the kitchen! Go tell it to shut up!"

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



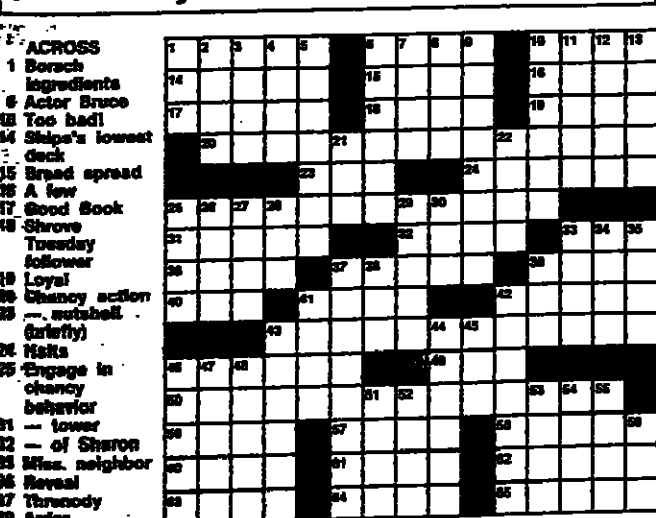
Answer here: " " " " HIM

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: LATCH ADAGE TRAGIC DEVOUR

Answer: She said he was her pet project which must be why she tried to do this. TREAT HIM LIKE A DOG

THE Daily Crossword by Kenneth Witte



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

1 Across	Ingredients
2 Across	Actor Bruce
3 Across	Top hat
4 Across	Stable's lowest
5 Across	Deck
6 Across	Bread spread
7 Across	A few
8 Across	Good book
9 Across	Shrove
10 Across	Tuesday
11 Across	Followers
12 Across	Loyal
13 Across	Chaucer's action
14 Across	embellish
15 Across	(verb)
16 Across	Malta
17 Across	Engage in
18 Across	chancey
19 Across	behavior
20 Across	lower
21 Across	of Sharon
22 Across	Miss. neighbor
23 Across	Servant
24 Across	Thursday
25 Across	Arder
26 Across	Steam curve
27 Across	One brilliant
28 Across	poet
29 Across	Showered
30 Across	Take a chance
31 Across	MacDougal
32 Across	Comprehend
33 Across	Change
34 Across	something
35 Across	valuable
36 Across	Turk. VIPs
37 Across	Oratory
38 Across	Handyman's
39 Across	Ready film
40 Across	Feats
41 Across	Gay
42 Across	Classic
43 Across	Bar
44 Across	Worked in the
45 Across	yard
46 Across	DOWN
47 Across	Yaloux
48 Across	Clapton
49 Across	Edie Isle
50 Across	Type of bridge
51 Across	Reaction
52 Across	Artificially
53 Across	Mercy
54 Across	7 Ancient It.
55 Across	town
56 Across	Landlord's due
57 Across	to be killed
58 Across	Starlike
59 Across	Tallness humor
60 Across	Divert
61 Across	Goes in
62 Across	search
63 Across	Don's one
64 Across	Printing term
65 Across	Meat extreme
66 Across	First came in
67 Across	terse
68 Across	Fishing boat
69 Across	Before
70 Across	Direction sign
71 Across	Shipping
72 Across	ward
73 Across	Land map
74 Across	Refuge
75 Across	Chester fabric
76 Across	Italy/Spain
77 Across	goddess
78 Across	Pipe joint
79 Across	Tartan
80 Across	Farwest
81 Across	Couples
82 Across	Tide type
83 Across	Toodler-to
84 Across	Hebrides Isle
85 Across	Recess
86 Across	Pt. magazine
87 Across	Down in the
88 Across	mouth

14 injured as black miners continue strike in S. Africa

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Clashes broke out at several South African mines Tuesday where hundreds of thousands of black workers began a strike on Sunday night. Union officials and management blamed each other for the violence.

A spokesman for the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), the giant black union which called the strike at white-controlled gold and coal mines, said 14 miners were injured late Monday in mines at Kinross and Bracken, south east of Johannesburg.

The spokesman, Marcel Golding, said the workers were injured when mine security personnel tried to force them into the mines to work.

Union officials also reported violence and at unknown number of casualties at mines near Welkom, south west of Johannesburg, where miners who refused to strike armed themselves with pangas (machetes) and clashed with strikers and security guards.

Anglo American Corporation, the giant mining house which employs 200,000 workers, accused the NUM of "disturbing incidents of intimidation" against non-striking at 10 mines.

Anglo American added that support for the strike had not diminished overnight.

The NUM, buoyed by the

backing it has received in launching South Africa's biggest industrial strike, said 340,000 workers in 44 mines were on strike even though only 200,000 were called out.

The Chamber of Mines, representing the main mining houses which form the foundation of the mineral-dependent South African economy, said between 220,000 and 230,000 workers were on strike, seriously affecting 31 mines.

The NUM, the biggest union in South Africa, is demanding a 30 per cent wage increase, danger pay and has vowed not to call off the action until it wins.

The companies are equally adamant in refusing to improve an offer of salary increases of up to 23.4 per cent. Neither side has moved to reopen negotiations.

So far the government, aware that gold and coal account for more than half the country's export revenues, has not intervened beyond threatening action against intimidation of non-striking.

State-run South African Radio,

which reflects the government view, warned South Africa's emergent trade unions Tuesday they were putting at risk reforms introduced in the past 10 years by adopting uncompromising political postures.

The reforms include the legislation of trade unions in 1979 and the scrapping of some apartheid laws, although the relaxation largely stopped when black unrest broke out three years ago and prompted the government to impose a nationwide state of emergency 14 months ago.

In an apparently conciliatory step Monday, the government repealed a law which reserved the best jobs in the mining industry for whites.

Chamber of Mines President Naas Steenkamp welcomed the move saying it ended 75 years of race discrimination in the industry.

The radio, in its daily commentary which is often a harbinger of government action, said unrealistic wage demands, incitement and intimidation were causes for concern.

Apart from the miners, about 7,000 black metal workers have been on strike for several weeks, and last week a major metals firm, Samcor, fired 1,100 black employees after they staged two separate strikes.

Greek group claims blast that hit Americans

ATHENS (R) — A Greek guerrilla group Tuesday claimed responsibility for setting off a bomb that injured 10 American servicemen and a Greek driver in a military bus on the outskirts of Athens Monday.

In a statement to the newspaper Eleftherotipia, the group, called "Revolutionary Organisation November 17," said it would continue to hit American targets while U.S. military bases remained in Greece.

"These just revolutionary actions will continue until all American bases in the country close and until the last American soldier leaves," the statement said.

The bomb, planted in a car with U.S. diplomatic registration plates, was operated by remote control and blasted the bus as it passed.

The American servicemen escaped serious injury and were later released from hospital at the U.S. Hellenikon Air Force Base. The same organisation claimed responsibility for setting off a similar bomb, which injured 16 Americans and two Greeks in a military bus last April.

The group said in its latest statement it was against the Socialist government of Andreas Papandreu for proposing to start negotiations for a new agreement on the U.S. bases in Greece.

The organisation also denounced the replacement by the government of a statue of U.S. President Harry Truman in the centre of Athens last week.

The statue had been blown off its pedestal by a bomb blast two years ago by another leftist group in protest at a visit to Greece by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

"The reinstallation of the Truman statue shows the Papandreu government has become a blind servant of its master the American imperialists. The so-called negotiations are simply theatre," the statement said.

Relations between Washington and Athens became strained two months ago over American allegations that Greek government officials had contacts with Arab guerrilla groups.

After a visit by U.S. Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs Michael Armacost and preliminary talks on the bases agreement are due to start here next month.

Greece receives \$500 million a year in credits for having the four major U.S. bases and 20 smaller installations on Greek soil.

58 hurt as train crashes with bus in Hiroshima

TOKYO (AP) — A train crashed into a bus at railroad crossing in Hiroshima, injuring 58 people, local police said.

The Japan Railways eight-car train crashed into the rear of the bus as it was turning into the crossing on Monday night, a Hiroshima prefecture (state) police official said.

The back half of the bus was badly damaged, and all but one of the 55 people aboard suffered injuries, nine of them seriously, said the official, who declined to be named.

Four train passengers were

slightly injured after several train windows shattered, he said.

He said police believe the bus was struggling to make a sharp right turn into the crossing from a narrow street as the train approached.

The train was headed west from Mihara city of Hiroshima, 687 kilometres south west of Tokyo.

The police official said the bus passengers were members of a fan club of the baseball team of Hiroshima Commercial High School. The team is scheduled to play in a national high school baseball match Tuesday.

Bangladesh flood survivors reportedly starve to death

DHAKA (R) — Opposition leader Begum Khaleda Zia said the government is providing insufficient aid to flood-hit northern Bangladesh where, she said, hundreds of people have died and hundreds more are threatened by disease.

She told reporters Monday after visiting some of the flooded districts that at least 25 people have died from starvation after the worst monsoon floods to ravage the usually drought-prone region.

Mrs. Khaleda, chief of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party, claimed that despite repeated promises the government had failed to deliver adequate food and medicine to the villagers.

"It (the government) is making false pledges and trying to politicise people's sufferings for selfish ends and muster sympathy from abroad," she said.

Prime Minister Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury Tuesday rejected Mrs. Khaleda's accusations as "baseless and motivated."

The pro-government Inquilab newspaper Tuesday said food, clothes, medicine and other supplies being airdropped were far short of demands.

"The government is doing its best to help the victims and so far no one has died from starvation," it said in a statement.

Officials in the devastated areas told reporters last week more than 200 people had died, some of the from snake bites, in the three weeks of flooding.

The flooding has made at least one million people homeless, damaged the property of five million others and destroyed nearly one million tons of rice, they added.

Relief officials Tuesday said diarrhoea and other diseases caused by dirty water had broken out in areas where floodwaters had started to recede.

The Health Ministry said army and civil aircraft had ferried "enough" life-saving drugs and water-purifying tablets to fight epidemics in the flooded areas.

The pro-government Inquilab newspaper Tuesday said food, clothes, medicine and other supplies being airdropped were far short of demands.

Sims resigns from Pentagon

WASHINGTON (AP) — Robert B. Sims, assistant Defence Secretary for public affairs for the past two years, said Monday he is resigning to accept a post with the National Geographic Society.

Pentagon officials who asked not to be named said President Ronald Reagan plans to nominate Mr. Sims' top deputy, Fred S. Hoffman, to be the Defence Department's chief spokesman.

Mr. Sims, 52, said he decided to accept a newly created post of vice president for communications at the National Geographic Society effective on Sept. 21.

He said he was leaving his post with regret and not because of any disagreement with Mr. Reagan administration policies.

Mr. Reagan told Mr. Sims the

resignation was accepted "with reluctance," and added: "Because of your work, the public now supports and appreciates more fully our uniformed men and women who are the principal reason America is stronger and safer today."

A retired captain in the navy, Mr. Sims had been deputy press secretary for foreign affairs at the White House before taking his Pentagon post.

Mr. Hoffman, 64, has been deputy assistant secretary for public affairs since November 1984. He had been a reporter for the Associated Press for almost 36 years, including almost 23 years as AP's Pentagon correspondent.

Six killed, 16 injured as rock hits U.S. tour bus

WINTER PARK, Colorado (R) — A boulder dislodged by road workers plunged down a mountain and into the side of a Rocky Mountain tour bus, killing six people and injuring 16 others, authorities said.

"It looked like an explosion ripped the side of the bus apart. I've never seen one this bad," Sgt. Larry Tolar of the Colorado State Patrol said.

Six of the injured were hospitalised Monday, five of them with serious injuries. Others were treated for minor injuries and released.

Grand County Coroner Dave Schoenfeld said two of the dead were Australians whose names were being withheld pending notification of next of kin.

Schoenfeld said the other four were U.S. citizens: Marcus Lang, 23, of West Germany; Douglas Mackenzie, 67, of Canada; and two Americans were hospitalised in critical condition. A third American was in serious condition, hospital officials said.

Undersheriff Phil Wargo said the 28 people aboard the bus also included four Japanese, one Egyptian and one Swiss.

John Schmidt, dispatcher for Gray Lines Bus Tours in Denver, said the bus left Denver for the "circle tour," a 400-kilometre one-day trip that takes passengers over Berthoud Pass and through Rocky Mountain National Park before returning to Denver.

Dan Hopkins of the Colorado Highway Department said a high-way crew was clearing rock above the accident site when an equipment operator pushed the boulder onto a large flat area.

"The crew was operating under the plan that the rock would hit and stay there," Hopkins said. "The rock proceeded over the edge of the large flat area down through several hundred feet of trees onto the highway below, where it collided with the bus."

The bus then travelled several dozen metres before it stopped, remaining upright in the middle of the highway.

U.S. raises concern over Pakistani nuclear programme

WASHINGTON (AP) — The State Department has renewed its appeal to Pakistan to place its uranium enrichment facility under international inspection.

In talks last week with Under Secretary of State Michael Armacost, Pakistani officials reaffirmed they will not agree to such safeguards unless India does so as well, Department spokesman Charles Redman said.

"We plan to discuss this further with Pakistan. We've made it clear that we expect the Pakistanis to live up to their enrichment assurances and we'll also be talking to India about the nuclear issue," Mr. Redman said.

He said Mr. Armacost raised with the Pakistanis U.S. concerns about allegations that Pakistani citizens have been involved in efforts to obtain illegally in the United States material for use in the manufacture of nuclear weapons.

In response, Pakistani officials said they would take steps to ensure there was no illegal procurement, Mr. Redman said.

Peruvian rebels kill 9 peasants, policeman

LIMA, Peru (AP) — Peruvian guerrillas killed nine peasants and slaughtered 517 head of prized alpacas in the highlands and fatally shot a policeman and seriously wounded two other people in attacks in the capital Monday, police said.

Three members of the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement sprayed machine-gun fire at a small truck carrying two policemen Monday morning near a shantytown police post just north west of central Lima, a police official told the Associated Press.

A mother walking with her 3-year-old son was caught in the fire and shot in the back. She and the officers were hospitalised, but the child escaped injury, the spokesman said. One of the officers died hours later from a head wound, the official said.

The spokesman, who refused to be named, said five suspected members of the Tupac Amaru group, which endorses a Cuban-style Marxism, were arrested near the shooting site shortly after Monday's attack.

It was one of the bloodiest carried out by the group in the three years it has been mounting raids in Lima. The group has been responsible mainly for bombings, which have caused few serious injuries.

Peru's largest and most violent insurgent group, the Shining Path, carried out two bloody actions last week near Huancavelica, a state capital 250 kilometres south east of Lima, officials said. A column of 30 Shining Path killed nine peasant farmers with gunfire, knives and rocks a week ago near the village of Santa Barbara, about 16 kilometres south of Huancavelica, local police said.

Haiti high school students boycott exams

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — High school students across this Caribbean nation have boycotted final exams, protesting the ruling junta's continuation in power.

Most businesses in the capital city of 1 million complied with students' requests that they shut down for the day.

Only about 10 per cent of the estimated 19,000 graduating high school students in the capital showed up at schools visited by reporters.

Students also boycotted exams in the country's four biggest cities outside the capital — Cap-Haitien, Gonaives, Les Cayes and Jeremie, Radio Metropole said.

Armed soldiers were posted at each school. Every day since last Thursday, state-owned television station has broadcast a commu-

que saying soldiers would protect anyone who wanted to take the tests.

Exams are scheduled through Thursday. The boycott was to continue through then, though it was not clear whether the strike would.

Monday's strike was endorsed by the coalition of 57 political, peasant, religious, student and labour groups that organised 11 mostly successful general strikes against the government beginning June 29.

The strike also was endorsed by public transport drivers angry that the government raised gasoline prices by 19 cents last Saturday to \$2.10 a gallon.

Soviet editors say censorship over

EDINBURGH, Scotland (AP) — Two editors from Moscow, a poet and a sociologist said Monday that except for strategically sensitive subjects such as oil production and troop movements, censorship is over in the Soviet Union and there are no longer "forbidden topics."

However, Viktor Karpov, boss of the powerful Soviet Writers' Union and former chief editor of the literary journal Novy Mir, said the works of Alexander Solzhenitsyn remain unpublished.

"I consider he's too much of a politician and his politics are just untrue. He doesn't tell the truth and that might be one of the reasons why he isn't published," Mr. Karpov said.

Vitaly Korotich, chief editor of the Soviet illustrated magazine Ogonyok, added amid laughter: "I'll publish Solzhenitsyn if he comes back."

But the Soviet panel was told from the audience by Norman Buchan, a former Communist and a lawmaker of Britain's opposition Labour Party: "It's no answer to say Solzhenitsyn doesn't write the truth — his books should be available."

Solzhenitsyn, author of the Gulag Archipelago and other novels deeply critical of Soviet life, left the Soviet Union in 1974. He was stripped of his citizenship and lives in the United States.

Mr. Karpov and Mr. Korotich, with famed poet Yevgeny Yevtushenko and Yuri Zamoshkin, chief analyst of Moscow's Institute of United States and Canadian Studies, were discussing with a public audience "contemporary Soviet culture" in the new era of glasnost and perestroika — openness and reconstruction — ordered by Communist Party leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev.

They flew to Edinburgh with more than 400 Soviet entertainers taking part in the 23-day arts festival there that opened Sunday. The group represented the largest Soviet cultural delegation ever sent to the West, Deputy Culture Minister Vladimir Zanezhin told the Associated Press.

Mr. Gorbachev sent a message to the festival, saying "the consolidation of the potentials of world culture, the raising of spiritual values, is acquiring a new indispensable importance for the survival and progress of mankind."

Mr. Karpov said that before Mr. Gorbachev became leader, if he "had doubts" about a manuscript he wanted to publish, he discussed it with his deputy editors, then had to take it to the "censorship." He couldn't publish it without the censor's stamp of approval, he said.

"Now censorship doesn't exist, except as it does in any country for military-strategic questions, such as how much oil is produced

and what troops are positioned where," Mr. Karpov said.

Mr. Karpov looked puzzled when panel chairman Gus MacDonald, programmes director of the Commercial Scottish Television Network, asked him if he was elected to his job.

"Editors are appointed if they are competent artistically — and economically, because our publications are expected to pay for themselves. Are editors in Britain elected?" Mr. Karpov asked, drawing laughter from the audience of some 200 in the King's Theatre.

There was more laughter when Mr. Korotich said with a smile: "I was chosen." Then he added: "I publish what I want."

Mr. Karpov admitted that under past Soviet leaders, from Josef Stalin to Leonid Brezhnev, "there were bad things and mistakes. Now we need to take the burden off the soul and the heart of our people."

"There are no forbidden topics... We are publishing things now that couldn't be circulated three years ago even in manuscript," he said.

Books by once-forbidden writers such as Vladimir Nabokov, Osip Mandelstam, Isaac Babel and Boris Pasternak were now being published.

"We're living in a new society and nobody knows what it will look like at the end of the 20th century," Mr. Zamoshkin said.

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Bulgaria announces premarital AIDS test

VIENNA, Austria (AP) — Bulgaria has instituted mandatory pre-marital AIDS tests that went into effect on Aug. 1, the Bulgarian News Agency BTA reported Sunday. Last month, Bulgaria said there were 34 known carriers of acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), and that one person had died from the disease. BTA said in a press review Sunday that the daily Narodna Mladost published a two-page article on the dangers of AIDS, and announced the new regulations on mandatory pre-marital testing. The news agency gave no further details. Bulgaria has said foreigners who test positive for the AIDS virus are liable to deportation. The virus attacks the body's immune system, making it susceptible to other infections. It primarily is transmitted through sexual contact, blood transfusions and needle-sharing among drug addicts.

Tribal dancers gather, clouds burst

YAMOUSOUKRO, Ivory Coast (AP) — Masked dancers from all over this West African country came out of the rain forests and the dusty savannahs this weekend and danced up a storm. In fact, many Ivorians said the torrential downpours at the first nationwide festival of traditional masks and dancers came from the gathering of so many powerful tribal spirits in one place. "See what happens when you bring all these masks here," said a shopkeeper in the market on Sunday as he struggled to get his goods under cover before the wind began to whip streams of water into his flimsy wooden stall. Festmask '87, brought together more than 150 different masks and the dance and song troupes. Thousands of tourists and Ivorians flocked to the country's political capital for the spectacle. The crowds ranged from camera-bedecked professional photographers to knots of children from the city and surrounding towns. Sunburned Europeans and African mothers with babies on their backs all cheered and screamed with delight or fear as the masked dancers leaped, whirled and charged the audience. This tropical country, with its dry northern savannahs, mountainous western forests, and coastal palm groves and lagoons is home to more than 60 ethnic groups, each with its own traditions.

China to build mausoleum for Genghis Khan

HONG KONG (R) — China plans to build a mausoleum for Genghis Khan, the 13th century Mongolian emperor who conquered much of Asia and Europe. The official China News Service said the mausoleum would be located in the north-western city Lanzhou where the Mongolian conqueror died in 1227. Genghis Khan, criticised as a "Mongolian chauvinist" during the decade of chaos begun in 1966 known as the Cultural Revolution, has been rehabilitated by China's reformist leaders in recent years in their reassessment of history. The news agency, monitored in Hong Kong, said Genghis Khan's remains, his tent, armour and clothes would be removed from a nearby temple and installed in the mausoleum. It did not say when the project would be completed.

Queen Beatrix leaves hospital

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — Queen Beatrix left a hospital in The Hague on Tuesday morning after almost a week of treatment for viral meningitis, a spokesman for the royal family announced. Queen Beatrix walked to a court limousine and was driven to her Huis Ten Bosch Palace from the Bronovo Hospital, spokesman Fred Loertzer said. She will remain there for further recovery, he said. "The medical team has advised that she will have to take much rest in the next few weeks," Mr. Loertzer told the Associated Press, adding that the queen would be able to assume "gradually more" of her duties as a monarch. All her immediate public appearances have been canceled. Mr. Loertzer said there was no word how long she must convalesce until she can resume a full schedule. The queen's next major state appearance is scheduled for Sept. 15, when she opens parliament and reads the yearly government policy speech.

Zsa Zsa Gabor thanks divorce lawyers

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — Actress Zsa Zsa Gabor paid tribute to U.S. divorce lawyers, saying, "you guys made me rich and famous." Ms. Gabor, wearing a tight-fitting, low-cut chiffon dress, delivered the keynote address at a luncheon of family law attorneys, explaining that the lawyer for her first divorce advised her not to seek alimony. The result, said the diamond-bedecked Gabor, was that she had to go into show business to pay his fees. "Not diamonds, but divorce lawyers are a girl's best friend," she told about 300 lawyers, dressed mostly in staid business suits, and their wives. Ms. Gabor, author of the book How to Catch a Man, Marry Him, and Get Rid of Him, has been married eight times and divorced seven. She still is married to a German prince. "I have never asked for alimony," she said. "First, I was too stupid. Late I was so glad to get rid of them. I didn't need to get paid."

Kennedy yacht runs aground

WOODS HOLE, Massachusetts (AP) — Sen. Edward Kennedy and seven passengers aboard his 50-foot (15 metre) yacht made it safely to shore, two hours after the schooner ran aground off Cape Cod and began taking on water, the Coast Guard said. Sen. Kennedy called the Coast Guard for help when the Myra ran ashore, but he misreported his location and search teams could not find the yacht. Lt. Paul Wolf of the Coast Guard's Woods Hole Station said. After searching 1½ hours, the Coast Guard received word that Sen. Kennedy had freed the yacht from an underwater ledge and made it into Green Pond Harbour in Falmouth, Wolf said. Sen. Kennedy had reported his position as being two miles south west of his family's Hyannis compound when the boat ran aground but apparently was about 10 miles south west of Hyannis, where the Myra was headed after departing from Martha's Vineyard, Wolf said. A Coast Guard boat helped Sen. Kennedy pump water from the yacht until a commercial rescue company arrived, Wolf said.

Severed leg gives girl new forearm

PEKING (R) — Surgeons used part of a leg which a girl lost in a train accident to give her a new forearm, the China Daily newspaper said. Eleven-year-old Mieng Xin had her left arm and leg severed in the accident. She was taken to the central hospital in Shenyang, capital of the north-east province of Liaoning, where surgeons operated for 18 hours to make a new forearm out of her severed leg and attach her hand to it. Skin on the transplanted "forearm" had returned to normal and her fingers had recovered their sense of touch, it said. The paper did not give the date of the operation or the time or place of the accident.

Children examined in abuse probe

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — Sixty youngsters have been questioned as part of an investigation into possible sexual abuse at a day care centre for children of military parents, an army spokesman has said. Bob Mahoney, a spokesman for the Presidio, a military post in San Francisco, said the examinations grew out of an investigation that began last November when an army engineer suspected who worked at the centre was indicted on molestation charges, but the charges were dropped in March when a judge ruled that the youngster was too young to testify under federal law. Authorities said letters were mailed to 300 families whose children had been at the centre, urging any parents who suspected Mahoney said a number of children showed signs of molestation and were being treated at an army medical centre, he said.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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DEAR MR. GOREN

Q—I can think of no simpler convention in bridge than Blackwood. However, I am amazed at how many times we end up in the wrong contract after we have asked for aces. What are we doing wrong? — A.W., Knoxville, Tenn.

A—As my good friend Easley Blackwood has so often said, he would be a millionaire many times over if he only had a nickel for every time his convention was misused. Apparently, you would have contributed your share.

Blackwood is probably more useful for staying out of slams than for bidding them. The convention should be applied only if you need to know how many aces partner holds, and nothing else, to decide whether or not to bid a slam.

If you are going to use Blackwood, be sure that you are safe at whatever level partner's response will carry you to. You must be particularly careful when your suit is clubs and you have just one ace, stay away from Blackwood. Why? Because if partner has only one ace

too, his response of five diamonds might take you out of your depth.

Don't ask for aces if, should partner's response show you are missing only one ace, you do not intend bidding a slam. That is particularly true when you have two fast losers in a suit. If from the response you find out your side lacks an ace, you won't be sure whether the opponents can or can't take the first two tricks.

As responder, respect partner's decision. He has all the information and has selected the contract; don't, in effect, call him an idiot by overruling him. The only time responder can make a decision is if the Blackwood bidder follows up his ask with five no trump. That does more than ask for aces—it confirms possession of all four aces. If responder now has reason to feel that 13 tricks are there, for instance, if he has a source of tricks that he has not yet shown, he can go straight to a grand slam without bothering to show how many kings he holds.